State general election ballot certified

14 statewide ballot measures included — A6

New recreation coalition formed

Meetings anticipated to begin in November — A16



PAGOSA SPRINGS, ARCHULETA COUNTY, COLORADO 81147

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VOLUME 116 — NO. 50, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

Reports of bear activity increasing as seasons change

By Randi Pierce

Fall is fast approaching, and with it has come the time of year where reports of bear activity are increasing as the bears prepare for winter.

As of Sept. 4, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Southwest Region Public Information Officer John Livingston reported, CPW had 157 reports of bear activity in Archuleta County.

Of those, 51 had come since Aug. 15, indicating the uptick.

Locals have also reported bears in multiple areas, including in driveways, on roofs, in trees close to houses and in the laundry room of a local care

According to Livingston, in the case of the bear in the laundry room on Aug. 30, it was not immediately clear how the bear got in there.

"We aren't sure yet if the door was left open or unlocked," he states in an email to The SUN."

Livingston added the bear got stuck in the laundry room and Archuleta County Sheriff's Office deputies who responded first were able to get the bear out



A bear is seen on a roof east of Pagosa Springs on Aug. 30. The homeowner reported their chickens and trash were locked up at the time of the visit.

Homicide: Maez found guilty, sentenced to life

Bv Randi Pierce Staff Writer

Christopher Ross Maez, 56, was found guilty of murder in the first degree with intent with a finding of domestic violence on Friday, Sept. 6, for the 2019 homicide of Millie Mestas.

He was subsequently sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole by Sixth Judicial District Chief Judge Jeffrey Wilson.

27 following days of jury selection, which began on Aug. 22. Closing statements took place on Sept. 5 after each side had presented its

Maez was represented by attor-

Town loans its sanitation district \$500,000 for critical sewer system repairs

By Derek Kutzer Staff Writer

On Sept. 3, the board of the Pagosa Springs Sanitation General Improvement District (PSSGID) voted to move \$500,000 from town funds to kick-start critical repairs on its sewer system, pushing off a bigger decision on financing for a larger overhaul of the system.

Public Works Director Karl Johnson said that he fears a "catastrophic event" could be in the cards if the district doesn't do something now to shore up the system.

Town Manager David Harris added, "We need to get moving here ... and we need to move sooner rather than later."

Johnson explained to the board that the biggest project on the district's radar would be to continue repairing what has been deemed category 4 and 5 problems with sewer pipes, as well as its obligation to upgrade the Vista Treatment Plant, owned and operated by the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District (PAWSD), to bring it into compliance with state Regulation 85.

■ See Repairs A8

School board discusses timeline for facilities assessment results

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

■ See Bear A8

The Archuleta School District (ASD) Board of Education (BOE) held its first regular meeting of the 2024-2025 school year on Tuesday, Sept. 10, at which it further discussed the status of the district's facilities assessment being performed by RTA Architects, based out of Colorado Springs.

The board first discussed the initial results from the draft assessment during its board retreat in August.

During the retreat, ASD superintendent Rick Holt explained that the district was still waiting on the final results of the facilities report.

At the Sept. 20 meeting, Holt noted again that the district is still waiting for the final assessment results.

He explained that the district is scheduled to meet with representatives from RTA on Sept. 20.

Holt stated that the facilities assessment is looking at the quality of the district's buildings and the condition of its learning environments.

Also, RTA will be performing a cost analysis with its facilities assessment, Holt explained.

Holt indicated that the final assessment results will be presented during the board's next regular meeting, scheduled for Oct. 8 at 6 p.m. in the Pagosa Springs Middle School library. The meeting will also be streamed live on the district's YouTube channel.

Holt went on to explain that RTA is using a three-layer approach in its ■ See Facilities A16

Pagosa RD Fall 2024 Planned Prescribed Burns Fawn Gulch RX **Brockover RX** Mill Creek RX Mill Creek RX Structures

Map courtesy U.S. Forest Service

Correction

In the Sept. 5 issue of The SUN, in the article "Recall petition against Medina dropped," it was stated there were "hundreds of signatures" of people

who agree there is an ethical issue. The quote should have stated "hundreds of people."

The SUN regrets the error.

PREVIEW Opinion Live Performers Letters 12 18 Sudoku Obituary PREVIEW Calendar Russell L. Crowley Crossword William Marshall 'Bill' Downey Word Search Henry Louis 'Hank' Lomasney **Business** PagosaSUN.com Health Fair and Expo set ExplorePagosa.com A9 'Major progress': Pirates set new PRs at Alamosa meet A12 **Public Notices Outdoors** Pagosa area trails cleared of downfall

Prescribed burns planned for Pagosa Ranger District

By Kris Allen

U.S. Forest Service

The San Juan National Forest's Pagosa Ranger District is planning to conduct prescribed burns starting in September.

Burning operations may take

place over multiple days when weather and fuel conditions are favorable for meeting objectives described in the prescribed fire

Burning operations will utilize both hand and aerial ignitions, and will be conducted by Forest

Service personnel and cooperating agencies.

Burns will take place in the following locations:

• Fawn Gulch (1,100 acres) adjacent to Fawn Gulch Road (Forest Service Road 666) northeast of Pagosa Springs.

• Mill Creek (300 acres) adjacent to Nipple Mountain Road (Forest Service Road 665) east of Pagosa Springs.

• Turkey Springs northwest of town between Newt Jack Road (Forest Service Road 923) and the ■ See Burns A8

Opinion



The Pagosa Springs

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			Depth	Type	Moisture	
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9/4	83	46	NA	NA	0	
9/5	80	48	NA	NA	0	
9/6	79	41	NA	NA	0	
9/7	79	45	NA	NA	0	
9/8	79	44	NA	NA	.37	
9/9	78	44	NA	NA	0	

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Our View

Remembering the good

The last couple of weeks have been full of harsh reminders of the sadness and difficulty of this world.

On Sept. 4, a 14-year-old allegedly killed four at his high school in Georgia.

The shooting hit close to home, happening on the second day most local students were in school for the year.

That same day, a triple-fatal crash took the lives of two Colorado Department of Transportation employees who were working on a sign on the side of the road, as well as a passenger, in Mesa County, reminding us of the $horrible\,day\,in\,2018\,when\,local\,CDOT\,worker$ Nolan Olson was killed in a similar way.

Then, on Sept. 7, we were shocked when an email arrived in our inbox announcing that a Colorado State Patrol trooper was in his marked patrol vehicle in a center median in the Denver area when a car drove past and several rounds were fired at the trooper.

The trooper was hit by one round.

According to the CSP, "The car proceeded to pull over on the inside shoulder, the gunman exited the vehicle with a firearm and began to fire additional rounds at the windshield of the patrol vehicle. The

Trooper exited his vehicle with his rifle and fired, shooting the gunman. The gunman was pronounced deceased at the scene, and the Trooper was transported to an area hospital for nonlife-threatening injuries."

We've also had to report on heartbreaking local events.

On Wednesday, we commemorated the anniversary of the 9/11 terrorist attacks and again thought back and remembered exactly where we were and what we were doing when we saw coverage of the first plane that crashed into one of the twin towers and watched the second plane hit and the rest of the day's events unfold.

But the last couple of weeks have also been full of little reminders of the fun, beauty and the goodness that surrounds us.

In thinking about the school shooting in Georgia, we're immeasurably grateful no such tragedy has hit our community and keep those who have had to go through that grief in our hearts.

We're thankful that instead of such tragedy, we've gotten to talk to students we know who have been happy to tell us about how their new school year is going, the old and new friends they're seeing, and the

adventures they're looking forward to.

We're thankful for the efforts of so many who work to keep our students safe and help them to thrive.

We've enjoyed being back on the sidelines for Pirate athletics, watching our local student athletes compete, grow, improve and find success. We wish them all great

In thinking about 9/11, we remember how we were all in it together — sharing our disbelief at the events and coming together as a nation to mourn and begin to move forward once again.

We're also thankful it's that time of year when friends and neighbors share the abundance of their gardens with each other and take joy in showing off how big their squash has grown and how much they've

We also know that means fall is just around the corner, with cooler mornings and vibrant fall colors that will spread across the local landscape.

The life is not easy, but we hope to always remember to think of the good also, not just the bad.

Randi Pierce

LOOKING BACK



From the June 8, 1989, Pagosa SUN — The persistent pounding of this pile driver echoed through downtown Pagosa Springs last Thursday and Friday. The noise continued on Monday and Tuesday of this week as 40-foot steel I-beams were sunk on opposite sides of the San Juan River. G.A. Western Construction Co. of Grand Junction hopes to have the new bridge for the 4th Street/Light Plant Road crossing completed by the end of this summer.

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Robinson. Joshua J. Seraeant 29 Nebraska Omaha. Ho<u>stile - hostile</u> fire - small arms fire Helmand U.S. Marine 1st Battalion, fire - IED attack Paktika U.S. Army Battalion, 2nd Info THE PRICE SOME TROOPS PAID le fire - IED attack Paktia U.S. Army National Guard Bat stile fire <u>- IED</u> attack Ghazni Bagram (near) U.S. Army N IN COMBATING TERRORISM... PRICELESS Wyatt A. Staff Sergeant 28 Wa Vicari, Augustus J. Sf. **CASUALTY LIST from http://icasualties.org/OEF/Fatalities.aspx** Army National Guard

LEGACIES

By Shari Pierce

100 years ago Taken from SUN files of

September 12, 1924

We regret to report that Dr. Mary Fisher was taken ill the first of the week with diphtheria, but is now fast improving and will soon be her usual self. The disease was contracted when a child was recently brought to her home from the Southwestern Colorado Lrb. Co. mill for treatment and was found to be seriously ill from the disease, having since died. Ill luck seems to be on the trail of the doctor in recent months, she having this spring been seriously ill from blood poisoning.

Trout fry to the extent of 60,000 will arrive tonight from the Leadville hatchery for distribution in the streams of this section: 30,000 to the upper Piedra and Weminuche, 12,000 to East fork, 12,000 to West fork and 6,000 to the Big Blanco river. In addition, 16,000 will arrive at Chama to be placed in the Navajo river.

A family of eleven children in this county, all of whom are under 12 years of age, are greatly in need of clothing and shoes in order that they may attend school. Anyone having wearing apparel that they can contribute to this needy family, may leave same with Mrs. Jessie Hayden at the court house.

75 years ago

Taken from SUN files of September 9, 1949

The local schools opened on Tuesday **morning** of this week for the 1949-50 school term with a total enrollment of 324 students. The largest enrollment is that of the first grade which has 45 pupils. The 2nd and 3rd grades each have 36, the 4th 33, 5th 29, 6th 24, 7th 34, 8th 16, 9th 17, 10th 23, 11th 17, and there are 14 seniors.

The registration this year compares with 302 at the same time last year which is a substantial increase. Football practice has started under the direction of Coach Dale Moore and as soon as the schedule for the league has been worked out it will be published in the SUN.

A deal was completed last week whereby Mrs. Esther Moorehead became the sole owner of the Moorehead Garage, buying out her former partners, Aubrey Fowler and Jim Moorehead. Mrs. Moorehead took over the active management of the garage as of September 1st and will conduct the business under the same name as heretofore. Mrs. Moorehead will also retain the present line of Chrysler and Plymouth cars along with the general garage business.

50 years ago Taken from SUN files of

September 12, 1974

Work on the walls of the Court House **Addition** is going ahead rapidly and it shouldn't be too long before the structure is ready for a roof. Contractors in this area are working rapidly on all projects so that they may be under roof when that first fall storm hits and that could be at any time.

Harold Schutz, Chairman of the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners, laid the cornerstone for the new addition to the Court House Monday. The addition adjoins the main building on the west side, will provide space for a commissioner's meeting room, Welfare Department offices, and other space. Hessler Construction Co. is the contractor and the building is scheduled for completion in early November. Cost is \$85,000, with the funds coming from federal reserve sharing program.

The hot water well belonging to the town and located at the site of the old town hall has been repaired. The well also furnishes water for the fountain on the parking fill. It has been leaking for several months but has now been repaired, a protective pipe placed around it, and stanchions to prevent damage from reckless drivers are in place.

25 years ago Taken from SUN files of

September 9, 1999

Wolf Creek Broadcasting LLC, headed by Will Spears, took over the management of KWUF 106.3 FM and 1400 AM as of Sept. 1.

Spears said that, except for some fine tuning," the KWUF format will remain the same. "The staff is more or less the same as it was, and we plan to keep it that way, Spears said.

"My family and I moved out here from Los Angeles," he said. "We had been seeking a radio station for the past five years, looking all over the country. I had been in management and finance and had been a geologist and wanted to get into the radio business."

Spears and his wife, Christie, have three children: 5-year-old twin daughters Courtney and Brook, and Trey, their 2-year-old son.

About living in Pagosa, Spears said, "We love the outdoors and the people we've met here. We're looking forward to getting to know the community and becoming a part of it."



Letters

Letters to the Editor are printed as received and are not edited for grammar or punctuation, but may have been edited for content or style.

Letters to the Editor are opinions and information in them has not been verified for ac-

The opinions of letter writers do not necessarily represent those of the paper.

Rethink a Tri-State exit

Dear Editor:

A rethink of our exit from Tri-State?

I read with interest the Sept 6 Colorado Sun article about Tri-State receiving the largest Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) award in Colorado of \$679M. These funds "will help it (Tri-State) to exceed Colorado greenhouse gas reduction goals."

I will admit in the past I have viewed Tri-State as a carbon polluting villain, generating a high percentage of coal-based power. Eating my words, they have made progress in the last few years in stepping up renewable energy generation. This IRA award will greatly accelerate that transition. Tri-State's change to allow us to locally generate up to 40% of our own power (up from just 5%) gives us local control options. Tri-State also has a few large advantages over other energy suppliers-long term reliability and now financial stability.

Is it in the best interest of LPEA to rethink a Tri-State exit?

Would our energy purchase from Tri-State be a long-term cheaper, more reliable source of than other options?

My understanding is that LPEA can still re-enter into an agreement with Tri-State as long as LPEA has not actually paid the \$207M exit fee. Saving that exit fee plus interest on the loan is no small accounting. That sum does not go toward providing electricity, just to break the contract. Regardless, we will still pay Tri-State as they own all our transmission lines.

I encourage the LPEA Board of Directors and senior staff to do a thorough new cost analysis of exiting in light of this new announcement. Susan Atkinson

Durango, Colo.

How much land is needed?

Dear Editor:

I've attended the last two County Commissioner meetings where the purchase of property for a new, 30,000 sq. ft. administrative building was discussed. Several times the need for a total of five acres for the building and parking was mentioned. I wondered how much acreage actually is needed for the building and parking. So, I did a little research.

How much land is needed for the administrative building itself? According to multiple sources (CoPilot), the land to building ratio should

Letters

The SUN welcomes letters from readers.

Please submit your letter electronically in a format that can be copied and pasted to editor@pagosasun.com or via the form at www.PagosaSUN. com. Letters must not be in all capitals.

All letters must:

- be 500 words or less
- include the actual first and last name of the author
- include the author's address and daytime phone number
- be received by The SUN by noon on Tuesday (deadline may move up due to a holiday)

Letters will be limited to two per month per letter writer.

Letters quoting other people must contain proper attribution.

There is no guarantee letters will be

Poetry, anonymous letters, letters that are libelous or in poor taste, or that attack a private citizen or business will not be published.

If necessary, only one letter pertaining to a candidate or political issue will be printed in each edition up to three weeks prior to the election.

The SUN generally does not edit letters, but reserves the right to do be 2.5 to 4.31, and this accounts for parking. The land needed for the administrative building is then 1.72 acres (30000 x 2.5 / 43560) to 2.96 acres (30000 x 4.31 / 43560).

How much of this land is needed for parking? According to the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture, CPA-222.pdf (tennessee.edu), a one-acre plot of land can have parallel parking spaces for 150 cars/trucks. With one-direction diagonal parking, one acre can have 162 spaces.

Why not look at Walmart and City Market? At Walmart, the parking is directional diagonal. A lane at Walmart will have 20 slots per side, adjusting for the cart return spaces. The width of a parking space is 10 ft, 8 inches; and width of the lane plus the parking slots is 55 ft; the length is 213 ft, giving an area of 11.715 sq. ft. Thus, 1 one-acre lot (43,560 sq. ft.) could hold 149 vehicles (40 x 43560/11,715 = 149 vehicles).

City Market has bi-directional diagonal parking. A lane has 17 parking slots per side, a parking slot width of 9 ft, 4 inches, a total width of 64 feet, a length of 158 feet, and an area of 10,514 sq. ft. Thus a 1-acre plot could hold 146 vehicles (34 x 43,560/10,514 = 146 vehicles).

Walmart and City Market closely approximate the number of sites from known websites. Should the County Administrative building be any different?

Harman Park has a 3.9 acre parcel for sale. The 30,000 sq. ft building could easily fit on 2 acres with plenty of room for green space, leaving 1.9 acres for parking, large enough for almost 300 parking spots.

Can the County Commissioners or the Pagosa Springs Planning Department please explain why the 3.9 building site in Harman Park is not sufficient, especially given a cost of about 1/6 the cost of each of the two parcels of land adjacent to US 160? Karl Becker

Property rights and freedom

Dear Editor:

Property rights and freedom of religion -- two core American values -- are under attack in the case of Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association (PLPOA) vs. Pagosa Lakes residents Peter and Rebekah Laue, 91 and 88 years old. As devout Christians, they have posted messages of their faith outside their home, to the annoyance of the intolerant. Those who know them and have been in their home (like my wife and me), know that their hearts are loving and they have made their home into a place of spiritual growth and renewal for their guests. If PLPOA truly wants to enhance the lives of their residents, they will do better by promoting tolerance and respect, rather than harassing two old and frail people wanting to quietly live out their lives on the lakeshore.

> Eric Bowen Ferndale, Wash.

Bullying

Dear Editor:

Donald Trump has been a bully his entire life and has used bullying to get his way. During the early years of building his real estate empire he constantly screwed over subcontractors and other workers. When a contractors would finish a job and ask for payment, Trump would give them a percentage of the bill, tell them that's all he's paying and if you don't like it, sue me. Then if it got to court, he would challenge the verdicts and drag it out so long most small contractors would drop the suits for lack of funds to continue. That is bullying! Todays Trump is no different. He sent his army of bullies to the House of Representatives on January 6th to stop the peaceful transfer of power. He bullied election workers in Georgia and continues to demean and bully the women. He bullied blue states and governors during the Covid epidemic and continually bullies minority groups. He bullied other countries' leaders and his own cabinet members into heaping unwarranted praise on him. It now seems that bullying is the primary tactic, after lying, of the Republican Establishment and especially the MAGA cult. It comes

Republicans in Congress constantly bully witnesses during investigative hearings. They demean the witnesses by lying about the witnesses positions and job performance and don't allow them to answer questions. The way Marjorie Taylor Green treated Dr Fauci was despicable. It is, as Adam Frisch says, "anger-tainment" just for the cameras. "Moms for Liberty", Q Anon adherents and other right wing kooks bullied School Boards, election volunteers, medical providers and anyone who did not believe as they did. Experts, profes-

from the top down.

sionals and scientists were accused of financially profiting from the information they provided. Bullies are in the minority and their ideas are rejected by most people, so they resort to threats and intimidation to get their way.

This election will decide if the country is run by bullies, who only do what benefits them, who reject science, education, decorum, plain human decency and the "rule of law" or by a Party that is working for the betterment of all citizens, that believes in the value of science and education, supports our democratic allies around the world and continues to act in a rational and respectful manner and not trample the graves of our fallen heroes. The choice is clear to Democrats and former Republican lawmakers and National Security experts. Kamala Harris, a life long Civil Servant as a District Attorney, Attorney General, Senator and Vice President.

Dave Butcher

An economy for working families

Dear Editor:

Why do people think Donald Trump is good for the economy? If you're a billionaire or multi- millionaire, you'll benefit from his plan to permanently cut your taxes. But what about the rest of us?

Trump promises to impose tariffs like it's 1905. (Seriously, he praised President William McKinley touting tariffs in a speech last week.) Trump's tariffs will cost middle income families between \$1700 and \$4300 a year according to estimates from various tax and economic policy groups leaning from center-right to liberal. Why? Look at the labels in your closets, cupboards, and workshops.

Trump thinks tariffs will create more domestic manufacturing and lower childcare costs. (Childcare that leap of logic is his, not mine.)

The Biden-Harris administration led bipartisan efforts to invest in rebuilding manufacturing capacity. If those investments aren't moving fast enough, how do you think the economy will respond when working families need an extra \$1700-\$4300 a year for basics?

For everyone who can't follow Trump's logic on tariffs and childcare, his plan to eliminate the Department of Education is an obvious hit on early childhood education and childcare for rural families. Trump tries mightily to distance himself from Project 2025 but doing away with federal support for education and Head Start are key elements of Project 2025.

Trump thinks the Department of Education is fat to be cut. The Department of Education administers programs authorized and funded by Congress. They include, among many others, funding to help states and local schools expand preschool opportunities (which are also a childcare resource), guidance on supporting children with disabilities to have access to education, grants to rural schools for projects that benefit the educational needs of the community, and support for adult education and literacy programs. Many education funds are distributed as block grants to states enabling local control. A national commitment to educating all our children is not fat.

Trump thinks Elon Musk can be trusted to catalog other cuts. Musk has benefited from billions in U.S. government grants, loans, and contracts (and more from states). An LA Times investigation reported \$4.9 billion of federal funding for Musk companies by 2015. In 2022, SpaceX had \$2.8 billion in government contracts, and earlier this year, Tesla took grants totaling more than \$17 million to build EV charging stations. These numbers are incomplete. Is there a clearer example of hypocrisy and a fox guarding the henhouse than

One candidate for President knows from experience how working families stretch to get ahead and sometimes sacrifice just to keep up. If you're still thinking about who will promote an economy for working families, it's Kamala Harris.

Candace Jones

Definition of choice

The DNC platform has firmly established access to abortion on demand at any gestational age as an important highlight of their "freedom agenda." The current target for their attacks are now alternate "choice" options, namely, Pregnancy Resource Centers, which help countless women who want to choose life ■ See Letters A4

LIVE MUSIC at The Springs Resort = 5-7 pm in the Lodge Atrium Friday, Sept. 13th **Rock N Rebels** Saturday & Sunday, Sept. 14th & 15th **Jackson Mountain Ramblers** Tuesday, Sept. 17th Bluegrass Cadillac Join us for **Wine Down Wednesday** on September 18th! (50% off select wines) 323 Hot Springs Blvd. 800-225-0934

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Letters

■ Continued from A3

for their babies. False narrative and the blatant destruction of property against such Resource Center facilities are escalating.

Having personally experienced more than one unwanted pregnancy in my lifetime and faced with life's most difficult decisions on more than one occasion, it's time for someone to speak out on behalf of women who have been, and currently are similarly situated and struggling. As a first hand example, the person who forced himself on me when I was 17 years of age (not going to use the "R" word here) has never been located, and the child conceived resulting from this most ugly incident was placed for adoption. That "product of conception" is now a responsible citizen with a family of his own. A few years later as a single mom, I became deeply involved in the Women's movement, and volunteered in our Problem Pregnancy Hotline Center in the midwest. During training I was told the pregnancy was "just fetal tissue" and I referred women where to get abortions - this was prior to Roe v Wade.

Over the years a number of women have shared with me their regrets for choosing to end a pregnancy through abortion. I have spoken with nurses who described fully formed human beings exit the womb and left to die. Have we really stooped this low as a nation in our quest for women's rights? Yes we have.

During the Clinton Administration in the 1990's availability of abortion was to be "safe, legal, and rare". In 2023 as Governor, Tim Walz signed legislation to enshrine fundamental right to abortion for ANY reason throughout pregnancy into Minnesota law. Both Walz and Harris voted against protections for born alive abortion survivors. They have championed ideological "choice" over the realities of the killing of viable children in the womb, ignoring pain capability of such infants, among other things.

During the course of our lives, my husband and I have become a family who cares for our most vulnerable, people who are affected with profound disabilities. Such fragile individuals cannot speak or advocate for themselves and did not choose to be born this way, yet they are here and they deserve all the love, respect and support we can endeavor to provide. I am no longer pro-choice under its current definition, and am certainly not a "Trump lover". However, it is puzzling that a significant portion of US citizens consider voting for a platform which promotes blatant disregard for life, under the guise of "choice". Real choice would include alternative supports to keep the child and raise it, or place the infant into a family who wants to have children, but cannot. Instead, the Democratic platform besmirches the compassionate people who work at Pregnancy Resource Centers, since it does not agree with their pro death agenda, presented under the guise of reproductive health.

> Joan Kelley Gardner, Kan.

Constitution Day

Dear Editor:

September 17th, Constitution Day (and Citizenship Day) is the beginning of Constitution Week, September 17 through 23rd. This year marks the 237th anniversary of the signing of the Constitution by the Continental Congress in Philadelphia on September 17, 1787.

Constitution Week was officially enacted in 1956 by President Dwight Eisenhower from a congressional resolution petitioned by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

During this week, why don't we all make a point of thinking about and honoring our Constitution, our citizenship, and what it means to be a citizen of the United States of America? Americans should all reflect on the importance of the enduring strength of our Constitution. Let's reaffirm our commitment to the rights and obligations of citizenship in this great Nation.

I am extremely grateful that I have the privilege of being a citizen of America with its strong Constitution. Only we, the people, can keep it strong.

To quote President Herbert Hoover: "The Constitution is America's glue - Democracy is the Constitution's glue."

And remember, your right to vote is guaranteed by the Constitution. Not all people have that right. November 5th is the date. So, let's vote! Joanne McCoy

Bayfield, Colo. Simple economics

Kamala Harris made the state-

ment "Large corporations need to pay their fair share of taxes". How stupid is that. CORPORATIONS DON'T PAY TAXES, THEIR CUSTOMERS DO! It's simple economics. When a business incurs a cost it does not absorb that cost, it passes it on. Democrats like to play on the ignorance of some people with this statement. Unfortunately a certain percentage of the population will believe it. Tesla and Chevron moved their corporate headquarters from California to Texas for this very reason. High taxes and regulations have forced companies to take their business elsewhere and jobs with them. I see red when I hear a politician make a stupid statement like this. This statement sounds good to the people who think someone else is going to pay their taxes for them. It's not gonna happen folks. You will end up paying the higher price a business will be forced to charge for their goods.

John Meyer

Word salad

Dear Editor:

Word salad is a term for incoherent speech that lacks logical structure. The media couldn't stop criticizing President Biden when he made any sort of rhetorical blunder because of his age. Yet, they seem to be giving 78-year-old Trump a pass, even though he babbles incoherently during his interviews and rallies. Here is Trump answering a question about how he would make childcare more affordable, classic word salad:

"Well, I would do that. And we're sitting down - you know, I was somebody - we had - Sen. Marco Rubio and my daughter Ivanka were so impactful on that issue. It's a very important issue. But I think when you talk about the kind of numbers that I'm talking about, that - because, look, child care is child care. It's couldn't - you know, it's something - you have to have it. In this country, you have to have it. But when you talk about those numbers compared to the kind of numbers that I'm talking about by taxing foreign nations at levels that they're not used to, but they'll get used to it very quickly and it's not going to stop them from doing business with us but they'll have a very substantial tax when they send product into our country. Those numbers are so much bigger than any numbers that we're talking about, including child care. That - it's going to take care - we're going to have – I – I look forward to having no deficits within a fairly short period of time, coupled with the reductions that I told you about on waste and fraud and all of the other things that are going on in our country. Because I have to say with child care - I want to stay with child care - but those numbers are small relative to the kind of economic numbers that I'm talking about, including growth, but growth also headed up by what the plan is that I just - that I just told you about. We're going to be taking in trillions of dollars. And as much as child care is talked about as being expensive, it's, relatively speaking, not very expensive compared to the kind of numbers we'll be taking in. We have to do it because right now we're a failing nation. So we'll take care of it. Thank you."

This is just the unhinged rambling of an elderly man who can't articulate a coherent thought. I think what he is talking about is paying for childcare using his proposed tariffs on all foreign goods imported into the US. He never understood how tariffs work. They are paid by the importer, not the country that manufactured the goods. Tariffs are then usually passed along to the consumer. So, tariffs are not a "tax" on a foreign nation, could not possibly "take in trillions," will ignite a trade war, and will inflate prices.

When are we going to apply the same standard of mental fitness on Trump as we did on President Biden? John Porco

Mountain lion hunting

Dear Editor:

The Pagosa Sun published a letter to Editor in the September 5th edition regarding certain aspects of the upcoming ballot measure to eliminate Mountain Lion hunting in Colorado.

The writer made several statements that require further examination and comment: "Unlike traditional game, predators can't compensate for mortality with fecundity. They self regulate."

However, we find that fecundity, i.e., birthing rates, are largely determined by diet, particularly in mountain lions and bears. In times of plenty either mountain lion or bear can produce 3 or 4 cubs instead of the more common litter size of 2. This has been verified by studies performed

with captive Bears and Lions.

Also stated is: "There is no evidence that killing Cougars and Bobcats creates more game" - In reference to the classic textbook example of knowledge acquired on this subject we should review the Kaibab Plateau Experiment in wildlife and habitat.

In 1905 the Federal Government sought to protect the Mule Deer herd that lived on the Kaibab in Arizona. At that time the herd had dwindled to an estimate of only 4,000. Deer hunting season was closed and a massive effort to remove predators, mainly Mountain Lion, began. By 1923 the deer herd had increased to some 100,000 and starvation was recognized as a possibility. By 1926 some 40,000 deer had died. The predation by mountain lions had been grossly underestimated. A lesson learned. Hunting season was reinstated, predator control was "controlled" and by 1935 the Deer population was stabilized at some 18,000 which was determined to be within the carrying capacity of the habitat. This was achieved thru management by professionals in the fields of wildlife and range management who had the flexibility to manipulate hunting seasons on mule deer as well as all of the predators, as needed to balance predator, prey and habitat.

The writer also refers to a statement from Panthera which is the world's largest Big Cat protection organization. He neglects to mention in the January 2013 edition of National Geographic Magazine, Howard Quigley, noted wildlife researcher and Director of Panthera is quoted as saying "The Mountain Lion is the most successful large cat on the Planet and there may be more of them in the United States than when Europeans first arrived on this continent." In fact lions continue to increase in Colorado and elsewhere, since 2013.

There have been numerous reports written up in The Journal Of Wildlife Management, published by the Wildlife Society, regarding predation on the various prey species by Mountain Lion in the United States and in the western hemisphere. All of these studies quantify the impacts of predation.

Further, the writer states that "Many outfitters guaranty kills". In Colorado NO licensed outfitter will guarantee a kill for the simple reason that for decades any guarantee of a "take", whether fish or game, has been illegal and not worth the penalty.

So, however you vote on the ballot measure in November be fair to all wildlife and form your opinion from real facts, not misinformation.

Not threats

Dear Editor: Not threats, but promises?

In response to a failed recall effort that official representatives of the petition stated happened for a variety of reasons, including threats and retaliation, Veronica Medina has stated that she has never threatened anyone or asked anyone to threaten someone on her behalf.

I more than half believe this. I never stated she threatened anyone, and do not believe she did. This is a made up story by Veronica Medina. You will find no such statement in any public record, nor in private conversation, because I do not need to lie to legitimize my positions.

I also believe she may have never actually asked anyone to threaten or retaliate against others on her behalf, either. I believe they volunteered and she is quite happy with that outcome.

It's hilarious to me that there is no retaliation or reprisal happening, according to Medina, who states we live in America and it is our right to petition our government, while Thursday's Sun article attributes quotations from me that did not exist and implies I stated Veronica threatened people in my public comment at a September 3rd, 2024 BoCC meeting.

The Sun did not choose to interview me, but they have this right. They, as the Free Press, have the freedom to choose who to associate with and who to interview and whose message they want to amplify.

They are not obligated to the truth. Media has a first amendment right to lie to you, to mislead you, and to make insinuations to your subconscious that may not represent the complete facts. This is called "spin".

It is incumbent upon you to find out the truth, to understand the facts, and to choose your sources. As the county and newspaper work hand in hand to try to silence me through attributions of statements to me that never factually occurred, you'll have to excuse the cynic in me that sees the reprisal for exactly what it is meant to be.

Rachel Suh

Veterans and Trump

I routinely disregard Mr. Porco's political diatribes in his incessant letters to the editor, but his recent rant called into question the mindset of veterans who judge former President Trump as a wiser choice for another term as president of the United States over the candidacy of Vice-President Harris. Among other flaws in Trump's character Porco recites as factual, he made reference to the "suckers and losers" quote attributed to Trump with regard to fallen World War I veterans while on an official trip to Paris in 2018., an allegation also cited as factual by the ever-virtuous Joe Biden in his campaign against Trump in 2020 (not Biden's only lie about Trump). To quote from Snopes' own website (no friend of Trump or conservatives):

a story by The Atlantic, which relied on anonymous, second-hand reports of Trump's alleged words; there was no independent footage or documented proof to substantiate the in-question comments; and Trump vehemently denies that he once called service members "losers" and "suckers." While it was certainly possible that he said those things, Snopes was unable to independently verify the claim."

from we benighted veterans who see more merit in another Trump term rather than a perpetuation of the Obama-Biden-Harris administration, I would be happy to sit down with him over coffee to compare our military records and discuss policies (not personalities) of the candidates. Personalities are the subject of high school runs for office. I will let your readers know if I hear from Mr. Porco. Roy D. Vega

Campaign issues

Dear Editor:

This letter concerns details of the issues debated by the presidential candidates to help voters decide which one to vote for.

Concerning abortion: One of God's Ten Commandments is "Thou shalt not kill" (Ex. 20:13 NAB). Abortion kills. God, the divine life giver, "has given life to our souls" (Ps. 66:9 NAB) and emphasizes "before I formed you in the womb I knew you" (Jer. 1:5 NAB).

Our country's founding Fathers declared that God endowed us with the inalienable right to life.

Contrarily, Biden-Harris supported pro-choice democrats who believed that a fetus is part of the mother's body so she is free to choose to abort it, ignoring medical evidence that a fetus has its own DNA and so is a person with a right to live and not be killed.

Biden-Harris also supported democratic efforts to have legislation passed to allow abortion from conception through life after birth. This was condemned as long ago as the first century in the second chapter

■ See Letters A5

Dear Editor:

"In sum, the claim stemmed from

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Obituaries

Russell L. Crowley

Russell was born to Irwin and Bernice Crowley on Sept. 23, 1937, in Chromo, Colo., on the Crow-

ley ranch his grandfather, Pet C. Crowley, had homesteaded. For those who knew Russell, he loved telling stories, especially about his fondest memories. Here are a few of his fa-



vorites. Russell grew up in a time and place where cowboys, cattle drives and open ranges still existed. Some of his fondest memories from childhood included driving cattle from Chromo to the train station in Chama, N.M., to be sold at the Denver stockyards; wintering cattle at the Ghost Ranch in New Mexico; and living, exploring and learning at all the different ranches his father worked at in New Mexico, Arizona and Colorado during his youth. Later in his young life, after being in 4-H for steers for many years, he decided he wanted to learn about electricity. He was able to convince Frank Oppenheimer, who lived in the Blanco Basin, to become his 4-H leader. Frank taught him in a way that Russell loved. He soaked up every bit of information. He later joined the Navy and was stationed on the USS Los Angeles. He enjoyed his stint in the Navy. He was responsible for the radar units and loved a good challenge. But what he really enjoyed was stopping in every city he had shore leave for to go and experience the local cuisine and culture. He would go to a local eatery and ask the waitstaff to bring their favorite menu item to enjoy. After the Navy, he returned to the Crowley ranch in Chromo, doing what he loved. He was so fond of learning and applying new ideas to his ranch life. He met his future bride, Roberta Sandefer, while learning welding from a family friend in Texas. Every man is entitled to three things in life — one good dog, one good horse and one good woman. Russell often mentioned this quote often, as he felt blessed to have all three plus so much more. He is survived by siblings Carolyn and Harvey; his daughter, Kim (Dwayne Kinion); nieces and nephews Shawn, Tami (Tom Nothstine), Teryl, Jodi and David; and several cousins. There will be no services per his request except

close friends at a later date. Dad, I want to thank you for the est childhood a kid could ask for. I was so lucky to grow up in the world you and Mom created for me. I never wanted for anything, and learned so much from you. I will miss you 'til my last day on Earth. Rest easy and rejoice at being reunited with Mom, your friends and family.

for a private memorial with family/

William Marshall 'Bill' Downey

William Marshall "Bill" Downey, of Pagosa Springs, Colo., went home to be with his Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, in the early morning hours of Saturday, Aug. 17, 2024. Bill was born July 2, 1943, to Marshall and Bessie Downey. He married his lovely bride,

Jane, on Christmas Eve 1967. They raised two daughters, Stacie Barks (Tim) and Sara Kirkham (Robert) and have four grandchildren: Keagan Kirkham, MacKensie Kirkham, Har-

ris Kirkham and Hank Barks.

Bill joined the Colorado State Patrol in July of 1972 and was stationed in Pagosa Springs, where he served his entire career, retiring in 1998. He actively served his community, being among the first class of EMTs, he was a charter member of the hospital board and county commissioner. He loved taking pack trips in the high country, cowboy poetry, genealogy, politics, thought-provoking conversations and his family. He will be greatly missed.

His service will be held Saturday, Sept. 21, at 10 a.m. at the United Methodist Church in Pagosa Springs.

Henry Louis 'Hank' (or 'Bub') Lomasney

Henry Louis "Hank" (or "Bub") Lomasney peacefully passed from this earth on Sept. 2, 2024, at 10:43

p.m. in Mandeville, La., at age 85, following a battle with renal cell carcinoma. Hank was a beacon of light to all with whom he interacted. He exuded unquenchable optimism, a



joyous fascination with science and nature, unbridled selflessness, and limitless patience. Whether you were a longtime friend, family member or short-term acquaintance, Hank would make you feel like you were the most important and fascinating person in the world. He will be deeply missed. Hank was born the second of seven children to loving parents Henry Martin and Elizabeth Ann on Sept. 23, 1938, in Nashville, Tenn. He spent his first seven years in Oak Ridge, Tenn., while his father worked on a classified government project in the area. After World War II, the family relocated to eastern New Orleans, La., where Hank spent his formative years surrounded by a very close and loving family in a humble home on Chef Menteur Highway. He attended St. James Major Catholic elementary school, Jesuit High School ('56), and Tulane University ('60), where he graduated with a degree in mechanical engineering. Hank first attained a position as an NASA engineer on the Apollo program before returning to New Orleans to join the family business, Southern Imperial Professional Coatings, in 1968. As CEO, he grew the business along with his siblings to one of the top industrial coating manufacturers for the offshore oil and nuclear power industries. He later founded Isotron Corporation in east New Orleans, dedicated to

vanced radiation decontamination techniques. After a brief stint with Scientific Ecology Group in Oak Ridge, Tenn., he accepted a position as the vice president of international sales at Tnemec industrial coatings corporation in Kansas City, Mo., in 1998. Hank then re-established Isotron Corporation in 2002 before relocating to his mountain home in Pagosa Springs, Colo., in 2004. He found great joy in his later years maintaining his property, finding an almost spiritual connection with the woods and mountains. Never fully retiring, Hank's scientific exploits continued, as he experimented with new advanced polymer concepts nearly up until his death. Hank was predeceased by father Henry (1968), mother Elizabeth (1989), brothers William "Billy" (2021), John "Johnny" (2022) and Michael "Mickey" (2024). He is survived by his widow, the former C. Jane Turnbull; cherished children Peter, Henry Jr., Joel (Meredith), Patrick (Evelyn), Samuel (Corinna) and Christina Mattis (James); beloved grandchildren Samuel, Benjamin, Louis, Caroline, Claire, Madelyn, Cooper, Scott, Carmen and Adrian: adored sisters Grace Bauer, Elizabeth Borne (Edward), and Mary Jo Lorio ("J F"); and sisters-in-law Barbara and Jackie.

Visitation will commence at 10 a.m. on Sept. 28 at Mary Queen of Peace Catholic Church in Mandeville, followed by the Requiem Mass. Another internment service will occur at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church in Pagosa Springs, Colo., per Hank's wishes, at a future date to be determined.

Lydia Maria Martinez

Lydia Maria Martinez, 96, a resident of Pagosa Springs, Colo., passed away peacefully surrounded by her immediate

family on Sept. 1, 2024. Lydia was born to the late Juan Rafael and Antonina Martinez on April 23, 1928, in Rosa, N.M.



Manuel E. Martinez; son Sammy G. Martinez; and 2-year-old daughter Consuelo Martinez. Lydia took great pride in gardening. She made the best red chile, apricot pies and fresh tortillas.

She worked tirelessly meeting the needs of her family — sewing quilts, canning and making homemade meals. One thing you knew for certain was to never pick her flowers, mess up her windows or eat the center of the watermelon. When she did take a break, she enjoyed visiting her friends and relatives in the area, reading romance novels and True Story magazines. Lydia was an active member of the Guadalupe Society and was recently honored as a Catholic pioneer of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Church.

Lydia is survived by a very extended, large and loving family, (Beverly) of the late Sammy Martinez grandkids Natosha Smith and Jesse Martinez, Angie Riemer (Dale) grandkids, Victoria Gunnels, Tracy Machajewski, Jody Lucero and Jennifer Sawyer, Connie Gomez (Michael) grandkids, Suzanne Sisneros, Melanie Trent, Melody Gomez, Felicia Gomez and Macaela Ortiz. Donnie Martinez (Candyce) grandkids, Misty Carrasco and David Krygowski, Cindy Lucero (Guzman) and grandkids Josh Lucero, Isaiah Lucero, Lyndsey Lucero and Jake Lucero, Lawrence Martinez (Kim) grandkids, Kristi Martinez and Timmy Martinez, Robert Martinez (Terri) grandkids, Abby O'Conner, Jimmy Martinez, Ari Martinez and Kyleigh Martinez, 44 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great-grandchildren. Her brothers Raynel Martinez and Albert Martinez (Angie).

The family wishes to express a thank you to the Pine Ridge nursing home and to her caregivers - Sabina Archuleta, Sophia Jacobson and Madeline Haskin — for their companionship and compassionate care in her final months.

A viewing will take place at 5:30 p.m. with rosary recitation at 6 p.m. at Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, located at 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. in Pagosa Springs, Colo., on Friday, Sept. 13, 2024. A funeral Mass will take place on Saturday, Sept. 14, 2024, at 10 a.m., at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church located at 451 Lewis St. in Pagosa Springs, Colo. A Christian burial will take place immediately following the services at the Trujillo Cemetery in Trujillo, Colo. All are invited to join in a meal at Pagosa Springs Elementary School, located at 141 S. 10th St., following the interment.

Obituaries

Obituaries are printed free in The Pagosa Springs SUN and can be submitted to:

PO Box 9 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 e-mail: editor@pagosasun.

fax: (970) 264-2103 Deadline is 1 p.m. Tuesday for the following Thursday's edition. The SUN reserves the right to edit all submissions.



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research and development of ad-

■ Continued from A4

of the Didache (Apostles' teaching): "Thou shalt not commit abortion or slay a child after birth."

Concerning the economy: Trump increased jobs and wages while decreasing taxes, dependence on food stamps and welfare, maintaining inflation below 1.7%. Biden-Harris stopped touting 'Bidenomics' because 71.5% of Americans disapproved of it, 39% were angered by its increased taxation and suffered from its inflation which fluctuated from 9% to 50%. Recession and unemployment fears are sparked. Trump is favored 58% to 39% to handle the economy (Media outlet reports).

Concerning education: Trump maintained high moral standards and academic achievements which



Carter Michael Young-Poston

Carter Michael Young-Poston was born on July 11, 2024, in Kingman, Ariz., to parents Tiantiece Elkins and Dylan Young-Poston, of Kingman. He was 6 pounds, 8 ounces and 19 inches long.

collapsed under Biden-Harris who companies home. Biden and family favored the democrats' acceptance of woke, medical sex change and socialistic school unions and boards, which motivated parents to transfer children to home, religious and private schools which maintained previous values.

Concerning crime: Democrats ruling blue cities are responsible for increasing murders and property destruction because they defunded police and ignored law and order.

Concerning energy: All of Trumps accomplishments which made the U.S. number one in the world were cancelled by Biden-Harris who also depleted most of our emergency oil reserve, allowed gas pump costs to escalate and made us dependent on inimical foreign countries.

Concerning China: Trump raised tariffs, restored billions to American farmers and brought American

received millions from China and elsewhere (influence peddling?), and engaged in nefarious business practices (Media outlets).

Concerning the border: Biden cancelled all of Trump's successful controls resulting in millions of illegals from 150 countries to cross the border increasing crimes, disease, abuse of women and children, deaths in overcrowded hot vehicles, drowning in the Rio Grande, and causing thousands of drug deaths by the cartel (Media outlets).

Concerning politics: Democrats tried to destroy Trump by lying and fostering illegalities, only to result in his exoneration (Media outlets).

Concerning the election: After considering all the above, it is obviously logical to vote for Trump and Make America Great Again.

Eugene Witkowski

Local reporting that matters.

Colorado secretary of state certifies general election ballot

By Jack Todd

Colorado Secretary of State's Office

On Monday, Sept. 9, Colorado Secretary of State Jena Griswold certified the ballot for the general election.

"I'm proud to announce the certification of the 2024 General Election ballot," said Griswold. "Every election is an opportunity for Coloradans to make their voices heard, and I will always work to ensure our elections remain secure and accessible so voters can make their voices heard."

The general election takes place on Nov. 5.

The official list of candidates on the general election ballot can be found on the Secretary of State's website at https://www.coloradosos. gov/pubs/elections/vote/general-Candidates.html.

Statewide ballot measures

Coloradans will have the opportunity to vote on 14 statewide ballot measures in the general election.

The following amendments and propositions were referred by the Colorado Legislature:

• Amendment G: "Modify Property Tax Exemption for Veterans With a Disability" (HCR23-1002) proposes to change the Colorado Constitution.

• Amendment H: "Judicial Discipline Procedures and Confidentiali-

The case was prosecuted by dep-

uty district attorneys Genevieve

Craggs and Michelle Sudano of the

Maez stabbed Mestas more than 40

times and slit her throat on Aug. 6,

2019, while Mestas' granddaughter

was elsewhere in the residence after

Mestas and Maez had been messaging

all day, with Mestas taunting Maez and

Mestas stopping shortly before 7 p.m.

that evening after Maez went to Mes-

tas' residence and Maez dropping the

granddaughter off with family down

the street by 7:10 p.m., with Maez then

They also pointed to phone calls

leaving the family members' house.

and messages made by the defendant

following the homicide stating he had

done something wrong, as well as

physical evidence and interviews with

investigators, among other evidence.

The prosecutors also pointed out

The defense contended that Mes-

tas' son killed her, pointing to the fact

that he was an initial suspect after it

was reported that he had found her

They also indicated that the inves-

tigation then turned away from the son

and was incomplete and unfair, with

evidence ignored and destroyed, such

as a phone belonging to the son having

somehow been wiped clean while in

that Maez sent a newspaper article

regarding the homicide out to several

people the next day, including to Mes-

as whom he knew was dead

following the homicide.

They pointed to messages from

Maez not able to "handle it."

The prosecutors put forward that

Boulder District Attorney's Office.

■ Continued from front

ty" (HCR23-1001) proposes to change the Colorado Constitution.

• Amendment I: "Constitutional Bail Exemption for First Degree Murder" (HCR24-1002) proposes to change the Colorado Constitution.

• Amendment J: "Repealing the Constitutional Definition of Marriage" (SCR24-003) proposes to change the Colorado Constitution.

• Amendment K: "Modify Constitutional Election Deadlines" (SCR24-002) proposes to change the Colorado

• Proposition JJ: "Retain Additional Sports Betting Tax Revenue" (HB24-1436) proposes a statutory

• Proposition KK: "Firearms and Ammunition Excise Tax" (HB24-

1349) proposes a statutory change. The following amendments and

propositions were citizen-initiated: • Amendment 79, "Right to Abortion," proposes to change the Colo-

rado Constitution. • Amendment 80, "School Choice

in K-12 Education," proposes to change the Colorado Constitution. • Proposition 127, "Prohibit Tro-

• Proposition 128, "Concerning Eligibility for Parole," proposes a

phy Hunting," proposes a statutory

statutory change. • Proposition 129, "Establish Qualifications and Registration for Veterinary Professional Associate," proposes a statutory change.

• Proposition 130, "Funding for Law Enforcement," proposes a statutory change.

• Proposition 131, "Concerning the Conduct of Elections," proposes a statutory change.

In addition to the 14 statewide measures, local initiatives will be considered by some voters. County clerks have the most complete information on local ballot contests.

Important information for **Colorado voters**

• All Colorado voters can sign up to track their ballot from mailed to counted using BallotTrax.

• Eligible Coloradans can register to vote and update their voter registration at GoVoteColorado.gov.

Important general election dates

• Sept. 21: Deadline for county clerks to send ballots to registered military and overseas voters.

• Oct. 11: First day ballots can be mailed to registered Colorado voters, except for military and overseas

• Oct. 18: Deadline for initial mail ballots to be sent to each registered eligible voter for the 2024 general

• Oct. 21: The minimum number

of required voting centers and drop boxes must be open for the 2024 general election.

• Oct. 28: Deadline to submit an application to register to vote through the mail, a voter registration agency, a local driver's license examination facility or online in order to receive a ballot by mail for the 2024 general election.

• Oct. 28: Last suggested day to return ballots by mail.

• Oct. 29: Voters should return their ballots to a voting center or drop box up to Election Day.

• Nov. 5: Election Day. Voters must have submitted their ballot or be in line to vote by 7 p.m. for their ballot to be counted. Ballots cast by military and overseas voters must be sent no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day and received close of business on the eighth day after the election (Nov. 13).

Colorado voters can visit GoVoteColorado.gov to:

• Register to vote or update their voter registration.

• Find their local county clerk. • Find their closest drop box or

voting center. • Sign up to track their ballot using

BallotTrax. • Learn about Colorado's election processes.

• Find accurate election informa-

Wilson called the sentence of life

The trial was the third attempt in

A mistrial was declared during the

second day of jury selection in 2022

due to reasons unrelated to the jury

selection involving an investigation

then the Sixth Judicial District attor-

ney, withdrew from the case and re-

cused his entire office after a contempt

declared due to alleged juror miscon-

found not guilty of contempt of court

In February 2024, a mistrial was

In June 2024, Champagne was

of court citation was issued.

duct during deliberations.

In July 2023, Christian Champagne,

in prison without the possibility of

parole appropriate.

within the jail.

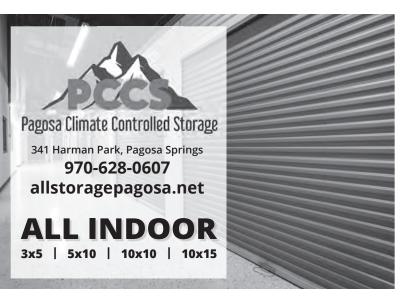
in the case.

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The defense contended Mestas and neys Ingrid Alt and John Baxter. her son had a drug-fueled relation-

> The attorneys contended the fighting between the two escalated in the days leading up to Mestas' death and on Aug. 6 she followed through with her threat to call her son's parole of-

ship and she was threatening to send

him back to prison at the time of the

murder because she believed he stole

They also noted that the son went back to the house multiple times and didn't initially call the police upon finding his mother deceased.

The jury began deliberations the morning of Sept. 6.

A verdict was reached shortly before 4 p.m. and read at about 4:20 p.m., with the jury finding the defendant

Sentencing took place approximately 30 minutes after the verdict was read, with the defense asking Wilson to waive Maez's appearance for the sentencing.

The prosecution objected, but Wilson granted the motion, citing

Vickie Torres, Mestas' sister, spoke on behalf of the family, stating that on Aug. 6, 2019, Maez "brutally murdered" her "beloved sister" and best friend.

Torres told the court she and her sister were 14 months apart and very close, and since Mestas' death she has dealt with depression, anxiety and post-traumatic stress disorder.

She later added that the homicide has destroyed their family "in every way," with their parents since passing and the family missing five years with

Mestas' son and granddaughter, and the father and daughter missing out on time with each other.

She noted that the son has to live with finding his mother murdered and wasn't even able to attend her funeral.

Torres further suggested that they believe Mestas' granddaughter saw more than they realize, and pointed out that Maez sent the newspaper article to 21 people while they didn't know for two days.

Torres asked for the maximum penalty allowed and thanked everyone for everything they had done. The defense team offered no state-

Craggs acknowledged there was only one sentence option and called it a "violent, brutal murder, " stating Mestas fought very hard for her life.

She added the case has affected many people, the family has had to live without Mestas, and now the family couldn't face Maez and have him hear from them.

She further noted that justice has been served five years later.

Wilson then indicated he's been in the business since the early 1980s and worked homicide cases as a prosecutor, defense attorney and judge and has never seen a sentencing where the defendant asked to not be present.

He then added he knows Maez's history and wanted to keep everyone in the courtroom safe, as well as Maez.

Wilson apologized for how long the case took, calling it "almost a sin" how long it took due to all the issues with the case.

Wilson then stated he was pleased with both sets of counsel and added that what Maez did is "inexcusable."

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Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate

\$797/\$996

\$615/\$768

\$350/\$437

Colorado drivers pose serious threats to pedestrians in designated low-speed zones

Colorado State Patrol

police custody.

School zones and construction zones have posted lower speed limits, traffic-calming devices and several high-visibility warning devices for good reasons. Kids' and roadside workers' lives are at risk.

Yet, when looking at last year's data from the Colorado State Patrol (CSP), troopers alone cited 1,237 people for speeding in construction or school zones, a 12 percent increase over 2022 (1,102 citations).

"Slow down! Too many Colorado drivers are failing roadside workers and kids," stated Col. Matthew C. Packard,

chief of the CSP.

Pedestrians of all ages must also

take precautions to ensure their safety: · Cross in designated areas. If designated crosswalks or traffic control personnel are available, this is where pedestrians should cross the road.

• Make eye contact. Before crossing a street, try to establish eye contact with drivers to ensure they see you before proceeding.

• Stay alert. Put away distractions such as headphones and smartphones. Focus on your surroundings and be aware of potential hazards.

• Stay patient. School zones and construction zones can be congested

and noisy. Wait for your turn to cross safely and follow signage and warning devices.

Remember, the key to pedestrian safety in construction and school zones is vigilance, following the rules and guidelines, and always staying alert to your surroundings.

Troopers remind drivers to put away distractions and look for mobile and permanent signs that prompt them to slow down or follow shifting lane patterns. Be a responsible driver by practicing patience behind the wheel and always leaving extra space between your vehicle and other motorists, equipment or people.

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5th in Family

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4th in Family \$288/\$359 5th in Family \$288/\$359

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FAMILY PASSES - All passes must be same type

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Business

Second annual Health Fair and Expo set for Oct. 19

By Mary Jo Coulehan
Pagosa Springs Area Chamber of
Commerce

The second annual Health Fair and Expo will be held on Oct. 19 at Pagosa Springs High School from about 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This event is important on so many levels for people in our community. A component of the fair will be the ability to get your blood drawn and have a variety of tests performed at extremely reasonable rates. Regardless if you have insurance or not, you may want to take advantage of this special pricing for a range of tests.

Another facet of the health fair will be the ability to meet with health care providers, find out about insurance options, and receive other services such as hearing tests, STD testing or other exams.

There will also be a lunch with a keynote speaker, which was a hit last year.

Since it is a health fair, one of the important components is to find out more about healthy products, classes or services that can aid you in looking and feeling better.

There will also be a Spanishspeaking component to the Health Fair, so please reach out to our Spanish community.

Small Business Development Center free consult day

On Wednesday, Sept. 25, the Small Business Development Center (SBDC) will be at the Chamber of Commerce to provide free, one-hour business consultations.

Mary Shepherd, director of the Southwest SBDC, will be on hand to help you with issues in starting a business, financials, internal concerns such as inventory, production or even exit strategies.

The SBDC has a cadre of professionals to help you with a variety of business issues. Looking to write a business plan? Shepherd can help you get started.

Looking to expand? Shepherd can assist you with what you need in terms of financials, growth plans and, yes, that business plan. Perhaps you're looking to retire. Shepherd can get you started and set up with a consultant on creating an exit strategy.

There are many more businessrelated topics that you can discuss during your free, confidential, one-hour session.

To reserve a time slot, visit www. sbdcfortlewis.org/consulting. Scroll down to "request an initial appointment" and follow the prompts from there. The Chamber is happy to partner with our Southwest SBDC.



SUN photo/Clayton Chaney

she said, also noting that she would

like to address what Williams brought

before the council, and others voiced

agreement with, about addressing the

concerns of the lodgers and changing

deGraaf added, "There's a senti-

ment within the community that is

running counter to the direction that

we are heading," saying that he'd like to see those voices be "heard and

"That group needs to feel as if they

When a motion was made to ap-

The issue goes next in front of the

prove Lucero's appointment to the

board, the council was unanimously

derek@pagosasun.com

tourism dynamics.

acknowledged."

in favor of it.

were heard," he said.

Colorado Congressional District 3 Republican candidate Jeff Hurd tours the Pagosa Area Water and Sanitation District facilities with district manager Justin Ramsey during his visit on Friday, Sept. 6.

Hilltop Cemetery Fall Clean-Up

Silent

Auction

To assist Town crews in the clean-up of the cemetery prior to winter, and to provide a safe environment for loved ones and visitors, please remove the following items from burial plots, driveways, paths, or rights-ofway before Tuesday, October 1, 2024:

Artificial flowers & shrubs which are **faded and falling** apart

Statues which are broken and in disrepair

Disposable vases which are broken and in disrepair (may be replaced after the clean-up)

Please watch for a community meeting after the first of the year to review and update current cemetery guidelines.

Plots may be purchased at Town Hall and are for interment rights only.

Burials are not permitted without a completed application available at

A complete set of rules may be obtained from Town Hall or at pagosasprings.co.gov/cemeteries.



Town of Pagosa Springs 551 Hot Springs Blvd. Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

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Town council discusses potential changes to tourism board during board appointment

By Derek Kutzer Staff Writer

On Sept. 3, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved a resolution appointing Shane Lucero, a local business owner, to an open at-large seat on the Pagosa Springs Area Tourism

But the vote of the council did not come without some discussion about possible changes to the rules of the board and some controversy stemming from the way in which the tourism board handled its own vote on selecting Lucero.

Ultimately, three candidates — Austin Marchand, Jesse Hensle and Lucero — applied for the open seat, which was previously held by Lucero, who sought another term on the board.

The recorded minutes from the Aug. 20 tourism board meeting show that the board chose Lucero using the process of a secret, paper ballot in choosing the candidate, rather than the more typical method of choosing a candidate in an open forum.

Board vice chair Dallas Weaver, who ran the Aug. 20 meeting in the absence of Tourism Director Jenny Green, explained at the council meeting that he wanted to use the paper ballot process because it is less awkward than the board voting in public on its choice for the seat.

Green added that the town attorney had been consulted about whether a secret, paper ballot would be legal for an advisory board to choose a candidate, which would ultimately be approved or disapproved by the town council and the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC).

The minutes from the Aug. 20 tourism board meeting reflect that it was determined that, according to Colorado Revised Statute 24-6-402, the law allows the board to handle the vote via a secret ballot.

The paper ballot tally showed that Lucero received four votes, Hensle received three and Marchand received one vote, according to the meeting minutes.

But town council member Gary Williams, who also serves on the tourism board, asked the council to send the matter back to the tourism board for reconsideration.

Williams suggested that he did not deny that Lucero "has done a very nice job" serving on the board in the past, but felt that a change on the board might better reflect the changing needs and nature of tourism in the community.

"We've got these 25 lodgers and owners of STRs [short-term rentals] in town that would like to see some change and ... perhaps my colleagues would like to weigh in on whether they think we need change and if we should send this back to the board for reconsideration," he said.

Council member Brooks Lindner expressed that he supported William's suggestion to send it back to the tourism board for reconsideration.

"There is a risk of allowing members to continually serve on the same board," he said, adding, "I don't think it serves the best ... interests of our goals for tourism."

Council member Mat deGraaf chimed in, saying that the board should embrace dissent and opposing viewpoints on the tourism board.

Council member Leonard Martinez disagreed with the suggestions to send this issue back to the tourism board for reconsideration, saying, "I'm absolutely opposed to this."

"The principal is most important, and that is that there is a process and it was followed. We're questioning the results of that process, and what I would ask is why don't you take a look at the process? But, it's too late now to be making a change," he said.

He added, "We have someone who has served and still wants to serve, and we find that a lot of our commissions and boards have trouble filling those spots."

He also added that Lucero "is a person who has served well and wants to continue to serve."

He cited the importance of Pagosa's historic culture, saying that Lucero is "fifth generation and, more importantly, on his mother's side, is the namesake, Archuleta of the county ...so the roots are deep, in that regard. So, listen, we have somebody who has access to where we came from and can continue to help us today."

He suggested the board already went through the process of choosing a candidate and "it would be the wrong thing to do" to send the issue back to them for reconsideration.

However, council member Madeline Bergon noted that it did seem "the process" in which Lucero was chosen "was a different process than what we've seen before."

"There was a paper ballot, and I have not seen that process utilized previously for board recommendations, and, so, I'm just a little curious

... because this was a different way of going about that election," she said.

Green explained that Weaver was "the acting chair of that meeting" and that the paper ballot method was chosen after the last time the board chose candidates in an open process, which she described as "extremely awkward."

She said the candidates from that previous January meeting were "friends, customers, etc. in a very small town," making the public vote difficult.

She noted that she had met with Weaver and he asked if it was "possible to do a different kind of vote" this time around, instead of a public vote, and that she had personally contacted town attorney Bob Cole, who told her that it would be fine "as long as the results are recorded in the minutes."

"I'm the one who brought it up ... we're a very small town and we see everyone day-to-day," Weaver said, suggesting he anticipated a scenario where a candidate would ask, "Did you vote for me or not?" and the paper ballot was a way to avoid this "awkward" interaction.

Mayor Shari Pierce said that she understands the difficult position doing a vote in public puts the board members in, but this was part of being a public servant in the community.

"I've had a lot of people come to me over the years about decisions that have been made, and my response is, if you don't like what we're doing, maybe we should look at changing the rules," she said.

She added that the memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the town, Archuleta County and the tourism board, allows for members to serve consecutive terms indefinitely.

"The tourism board did not have to take that into consideration when they were choosing a candidate ... So, if this is a problem, then we should consider changing the MOU," she said.

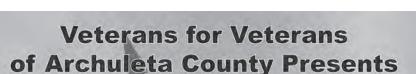
However, in the case of the paper ballot, she said, "I personally don't like secret ballots," but said that the town attorney stated it was legal, so if the council thinks this is a problem, "we have the ability" to address that "in the rules as well that they shouldn't have secret ballots."

She said to Weaver, "You're right ... it's very hard, but we [the council] sat here and interviewed our town manager candidates in an open meeting and discussed and voted right in front of them, and if you're gonna be on the board, it's just something you're gonna have to do."

She continued, "So, that's typically the way we do it," adding that if the council wanted to address the selection process of tourism board members, it would need to change the MOU to be more specific on the matter.

"I'm willing to be in favor of what the tourism board brought before us,"





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■ Continued from front

PAWSD has estimated that bringing the Vista plant into compliance with the state environmental regulation, pertaining to acceptable phosphorus and nitrogen outputs, would be a multi-million-dollar upgrade project.

The town-run PSSGID would be responsible for 25 percent of these upgrade costs, per its current agreement with PAWSD, putting the town on the hook for expensive repairs if both entities continue with the current system, which annually pumps 460 million gallons of town wastewater several miles uphill, using a series of lift stations, to the PAWSD-owned Vista plant.

This has led both entities to consider the idea of building a new, jointly run wastewater treatment plant closer to downtown.

A recent memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the PSSGID and PAWSD states, "There remains uncertainty as to the long-term viability of the [town's] main pipeline and two pump stations."

Aging infrastructure and a history of failing lift station pumps has required the PSSGID to spend over a million dollars to keep the current system running adequately, the MOU

The MOU also states that, "as part of the Roaring Fork Study, it is noted that if consolidation is pursued between" the two entities, "the community may be better served by a new wastewater treatment facility," with Yamaguchi Park South being the ideal location.

But Johnson said at the meeting that the most immediate thing that needs attention is "the rehabilitation the path of phase 1," to which Harris

of category 4 and 5s in the collection replied, "That is correct." system."

He added, "There's a new lift station proposed at 1st Street to help with that East End of town, and the collection pipe that is hanging off the vehicular bridge, that is one of the category 4s."

He explained that some "emergency repairs" have salvaged it for now, but it needs replacing.

He said that the list of category 5s is growing, "but not exponentially," so the district should rehabilitate the category 4s before they turn into category 5s.

He broke the rehabilitation of the system into phases, with phase 1 being the rehabilitation of category 4 and 5 sewer pipes and "lagoon decommissioning."

He said, "Currently, for phase 1a, the rates reflect that we can support a debt service of up to \$4 million for the first phase, and that's just to get us going."

He said that once the district moves into phase 1b, and "beyond, we'd have to, at that point, consider raising rates" on customers, as well as continuing to seek other funding such as grants and congressional appropriations.

This was described by Harris as a "build as you sail" method of addressing the issue.

"It should be noted, too, that as we move forward ... we are literally looking at all sorts of funding, from bond funding, to help us get started, to grant funding, as well as the state's revolving loan fund," Harris said.

Mayor Shari Pierce asked both Johnson and Harris if "the ask for tonight is for us to start moving down

Board member Mat deGraaf wanted clarification that the current rate structure could support the district beginning phase 1 without a rate increase, with Johnson saying that it could support the district beginning the project.

Johnson reminded the board about the urgency to get started on the project.

'We found one [a new category 5] last week. We don't have time to wait for grant funding. It needs to be done now, or we're looking at a catastrophic event if we don't do something," he said.

Pierce then asked Harris to walk the board through a few options, either for the town to loan some money from its general fund to the PSSGID or to apply for a \$2 million bond request.

Harris suggested that the town has funding that could support a loan to the PSSGID, adding that if the board chose the loan or going for an immediate bond, "We need to make this happen ... we need to get moving on something here."

Harris added that if the board chose a loan, that it should start with a smaller number until the town gets a financial advisor on board to make sure a larger loan is fiscally sound.

He recommended tabling the discussion until a financial advisor could be approved at the next town council meeting.

But deGraaf asked if it was possible to loan the PSSGID a smaller amount of money than the \$2 million originally being asked for so staff could at least start tackling some of the most immediate threats to the Johnson indicated that it was pos-

Board member Madeline Bergon asked how much Johnson would need to get started repairing some of the most damaged pipes.

"I mean, I'd take \$500,000. I'd take a million. It needs to just start," John-

Pierce asked for an amount that "could get you through the emergency of, say, the next four weeks, while we seek a financial advisor and get advice and then determine whether we should get bonds or continue down the path of a loan."

Johnson stated that he could get started on the project with \$500,000 on hand.

Harris explained that the money would help the town's public works staff "get kick-started on some of these truly known problems and repairs, and we need to get the engineers in there to design and get us ready, so that we can move forward with the bigger steps forward."

Board member Leonard Martinez said that he had enough information to make a motion to make \$500,000 available from the town's General Fund for this project until the board makes a decision on the best way forward financially for the larger project at hand.

The motion was passed unanimously by the board.

deGraaf said, "As someone who works in the industry, the weather windows are closing quickly, and I don't want the guys in the field to get put off for another month to make what I already assume are going to be unpleasant repairs, so the sooner they can get going, the better."

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■ Continued from front

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Additionally, multiple pile burns will take place at various locations later in the year when snow is present. These areas include Eight Mile Mesa, Turkey Springs, Fawn Gulch, Buckles Lake Road, East Monument Road, Quartz Meadow Road and the upper Piedra area near Williams Creek Campground.

The Columbine Ranger District began its fall prescribed fire operations in the Fosset Gulch area of the Southern HDs on Sept. 9.

The forests in Southwest Colorado are part of a fire-adapted ecosystem, which has historically experienced frequent, low-intensity fires on a large scale. Prescribed fire replicates that fire regime under controlled conditions.

These burn units are part of me-

chanical fuels reduction projects designed to reduce hazardous ground fuels and long-term risk of catastrophic wildfire, as well as restoring ponderosa pine ecosystems, and improving wildlife habitat.

Smoke will be visible from U.S 160 and U.S. 84, and from Pagosa Springs.

Smoke from wildfires and prescribed fires may affect your health. More information on smoke is available at https://cdphe.colorado.gov/ wood-smoke-and-your-health.

Maps of the prescribed burn units and additional information can be found on Inciweb. For more information, please contact Fred Ellis, assistant fire management officer (fuels), Pagosa Ranger District, at fred.ellis@usda.gov.

For information on the San Juan National Forest, call (970) 247-4874 or visit the forest website.

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■ Continued from front of the building.

"The bear was still hanging around the area only about 120 yards from the facility when our first officer arrived," he reports. "One of our wildlife officers darted the bear.'

Livingston adds, "This same bear had been handled by CPW officers a week earlier and relocated after multiple nuisance incidents, but it quickly made its way back." He adds that because the bear

entered an occupied dwelling the previous night and had already previously been relocated just last week, the bear was put down.

According to CPW, over half of bear incident reports in 2023 occurred in the months of August, September and October.

Reported conflicts with bears most commonly result from attractants such as trash, bird seed, pet food, and barbecue grills, the agency reports. When bears become too comfortable around people, they can destroy property or even become a threat to human safety.

"Research shows that bears prefer natural sources of food. But, they will seek out sources of humanprovided food if it's available, which can become dangerous to humans," said CPW Northwest Region Senior Wildlife Biologist Brad Banulis. "Preventing bears from relying on human food sources takes a community effort, and it's important that we all take proactive steps to limit human food sources in order to avoid any possible conflicts with bears and bear-proof our homes."

A black bear's natural diet consists of berries, fruits, nuts, plants and grasses that grow naturally in the foothills and forests. When natural sources of food become scarce, a bear's drive to search for food can overcome its fear of humans, the agency states.

Hyperphagia

CPW reported in late August that black bears in Colorado are entering hyperphagia and will spend up to 20 hours a day trying to search out and eat as much food as possible as they fatten up for winter.

Hyperphagia, the agency states, is an increase in feeding activity driven by biological need.

"In the coming months, it is critical that people are vigilant and proactive in removing all attractants from outside homes and campsites in order to prevent conflicts and encounters with black bears," a CPW press release states.

According to the agency, 20 chicken sandwiches, 10 large orders of french fries, 10 soft drinks and 10 milkshakes is the approximate fast food order needed to total 20,000 calories, which is how many calories hyperphagia drives a hungry black bear to consume every single day as they build up their fat reserves to survive the winter.

Be bear aware

CPW offers a reminder that by taking some simple precautions, you can avoid human/wildlife conflicts and help to keep bears wild, and the agency offers the following tips.

Bear-proofing your home:

- Keep garbage in a well-secured location. Only put out garbage on the morning of pickup.
- Clean garbage cans regularly to keep them free of food odors: ammonia is effective.
- Keep garage doors closed. Do not leave pet food or stock feed outside. • Use a bear-resistant trash can or
- dumpster. • Bird feeders are a major source of bear/human conflicts. Attract birds naturally with flowers and water baths. Do not hang bird feeders from April 15 to Nov. 15.
- · Don't allow bears to become comfortable around your house. If

you see one, haze it by yelling at it, throwing things at it and making loud noises to scare it off.

- Secure compost piles. Bears are attracted to the scent of rotting food.
- Clean the grill after each use, and lean up thoroughly after cookouts. • If you have fruit trees, don't allow
- the fruit to rot on the ground. • Talk to your neighbors and kids about being Bear Aware.
- Cars, traveling and campsites: • Lock your doors when you're
- away from home and at night. • Keep the bottom-floor windows of your house closed when you're
- not at home. • Do not keep food in your vehicle; roll up windows and lock the doors of your vehicles.
- When car-camping, secure all
- food and coolers in a locked vehicle. • Keep a clean camp, whether you're in a campground or in the backcountry.
- When camping in the backcountry, hang food 100 feet or more from the campsite; don't bring any food into your tent.
- Cook food well away from your tent; wash dishes thoroughly. Protecting your chickens, bees,

- · Keep chickens, bees and livestock in a fully covered enclosure, especially at night.
- Construct electric fencing when possible.
- side. · Keep enclosures clean to minimize animal odors.

and/or Pine-Sol around the enclo-

• Hang rags soaked in ammonia

sure as a scent deterrent. CPW asks all residents and visitors to help save Colorado's bears by being actively bear aware throughout the late summer and fall seasons. Bear conflicts and, unfortunately, bear euthanization is most often traced back to human behavior. It is all of our

mindful of our impacts. For more information on bears in Colorado, visit cpw.state.co.us/ living-bears. If you have questions or need to report bear problems, call your nearest CPW office.

responsibility to help minimize risks

to humans and bears alike by being

Additional information can be found at https://cpw.state.co.us/ protect-your-home-wildlife.

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Sports

CROSS-COUNTRY



Photo courtesy Rachael Christiansen

place finish out of more than 300 runners in 19-minute finish at the Joe I. Vigil XC Invitational Alamosa on Sept. 7. Osborn shaved more than in Alamosa on Sept. 7. a minute off his race time compared to the first race of the season.



Photo courtesy Rachael Christiansen

Pirate Stetson Osborn runs en route to a 231st Pirate Jesse Beck works toward his first sub-



Photo courtesy Rachael Christiansen

way up the ranks. We'll be doing that

by incorporating workouts specifi-

cally designed to help us excel on the

regional course in Colorado Springs."

head to Bayfield for a Saturday meet.

10:20 a.m., followed by the boys'

squad at 10:50 a.m.

as "a tougher, hillier course."

This week, the Pirate harriers will

The Lady Pirates are set to race at

Christiansen describes the course

She indicates that, while she

doesn't expect many new PRs, the

Lady Pirates Mila Miller and Vivy DavRem run together at the Joe I. Vigil XC Invitational in Alamosa on Sept. 7. Both harriers have taken minutes off their time over the course of the season.

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'Major progress': Pirates set new PRs at Alamosa meet

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

Last weekend's Joe I. Vigil XC Invitational in Alamosa showcased

progress for the Pagosa Springs High School Pirate cross-country teams, and featured a number of personal records (PRs). "What a fun race weekend in Alamosa at the Joe Vigil Invitational,"

coach Rachael Christiansen wrote in the team's newsletter. "It was one of those days where we had almost everyone racing, the weather was perfect, and we saw some major progress by every single runner!"

The Lady Pirates finished 16th out of 23 teams at the meet, with the Pirates finishing 24th out of 28 teams.

Both teams placed seventh of the teams in their region, according to the coach, who indicates that both teams can make large strides in the

coming weeks. Sienna Rose was the first Lady Pirate across the line, finishing 39th out of 257 runners with a time of battling being sick for a few weeks," 20 minutes, 58 07 seconds in what Christiansen noted was Rose's first race of the season.

Christiansen adds Rose started her season "off right with a new PR and breaking the 21 minute mark for the first time."

The coach adds, "Now, she's eyeing potentially breaking 20 minutes, which would be the first time a Lady Pirate has done that in almost 10 years!"

Kaiya Lyons finished in 88th with a time of 22:39.85, breaking the 23-minute mark for the first time and setting a new PR.

Madisen Stretton finished 117th with a time of 23:35.02.

Christiansen notes Stretton was coming off an injury, but ran a "very strong race" and earned a PR.

"It has been a couple tough weeks for her and we are so happy to see her commitment to rehab and patience in the process pay off," the coach wrote.

Stretton was followed by Adison Johnson in 119th with a time of 23:26.02, which the coach highlights was her first time breaking 24 min-

Bella Jackson crossed the line 122nd in 23:32.56, with the coach pointing out she took over 10 minutes off her race time in Durango the previous week, earning a sub-24-minute PR.

The Pagosa Springs High School

Pirate golf team took part in three

tournaments over the course of a

week, with the results showing both

coach Mark Faber said, adding the

team just has to figure out how to

have that be consistent for 18 holes.

Vista Golf Tournament on Friday,

Sept. 6, finishing second behind the

"I see periods of really good golf,"

The Pirates took part in the Monte

bright spots and areas for work.

By Randi Pierce

Staff Writer

host team.

"As a new freshman runner, she's last year and ran "a strong race from learning what her pre-race food/ water/etc should look like and we'd say it definitely paid off," Christiansen wrote.

Hailey Sams finished 158th with a time of 24:46.86.

"Hailey Sams ran one of her best races as a Lady Pirate, finishing as our 6th runner," Christiansen notes.

Vivy DavRem finished 182nd with a time of 25:21.13, which Christiansen highlights is more than five minutes faster than her time in Silverton.

Mila Miller finished 206th in 26:05.62

"Mila Miller was our 8th runner, also taking almost 5 minutes of her previous PR from Silverton," the coach wrote. "These freshman ladies are looking really strong to start and we're excited to see what a little more experience can do for them."

Gwen Tyler finished 246th in

"Gwen Tyler was our final Lady Pirate, finishing off a strong race after Christiansen wrote, "She even took over 5 minutes off her PR from Durango the previous week."

Jesse Beck was the top finisher for the boys' squad, finishing 92nd out of 304 runners.

Beck ran a time of 18:36.66, breaking 19 minutes for the first time.

"This has been something he had been trying to do for years, and crushed it with an 18:36 official time," Christiansen wrote.

Connor Thomas finished 114th with a time of 19:09.82, with the coach noting he took 41 seconds off his prior PR and is "getting very close to breaking that 19 minute mark."

Eli Nehring shaved 2:58 off his race last weekend to set a new PR to finish 162nd with a time of 20:28.96, with the coach adding she has no doubts he'll break the 20-minute mark by the end of the season.

Merrick Tudor followed in 175th with a time of 20:40.43.

"Merrick ran almost 3 minutes faster than his debut race in Silverton and is looking strong as a freshman runner," Christiansen wrote. "We also believe he will break that 20 minute mark this season."

Dylan Dempster was the fifth Pirate to cross the finish line, finishing 188th with a time of 21:05.88.

Christiansen notes Dempster took 12 seconds off his PR from regionals

GOLF

Pirates face off at trio of tournaments

on the day with a 73, which included

birdies on two holes, par on 12 and

with an 86, which included shooting

par on six holes and bogeys on nine

an 89, shooting par on six holes and

bogey on three.

bogeys on six holes.

holes.

Johnathon Smith finished second

Tyler Dimond finished seventh

Cedar Liverett finished 10th with

Isabel Galloway finished 17th with

a 100, with Galloway shooting par on

start to finish."

Peyton Jackson and Weston Sweet finished at virtually the same time, with Jackson taking 192nd with a time of 21:16.71 and Sweet taking 193rd with a time of 21:16.71.

"Peyton Jackson returned to the team and was running his first race of the season. Peyton may not have gotten a PR, but for his first race after only a few practices, coming off an injury from last year, we'd say he ran great," Christiansen wrote. "Weston Sweet finished at the exact same time as Peyton, running his first ever HS XC 5k! He is another freshman who has a lot of potential and room to grow before the end of the season. Keep an eye on this guy!"

Isaac Hanto finished 224th with a time of 22:02.32.

The coach highlights that Hanto also finished the day with a new PR, "besting his time from last year by a few seconds."

Stetson Osborn was the ninth Pirate across the line, finishing 231st with a time of 22:18.58, which the coach notes is more than a minute faster than his first race in Silverton.

"Stetson had a strong final mile, but we think he has more in him, so we're sure he'll continue to improve and possibly even move up in the team," she wrote.

Running his first race of the season after only a few practices was Asher Kurz, according to the coach.

Kurz ran a time of 23:51.34 to finish 254th, which Christiansen adds is almost two minutes faster than his PR from last year.

"He is looking strong and with some dedicated practices and time on his feet running, we think he'll continue to take time off as the season progresses," she wrote.

The coach acknowledges the teams have some work to do and indicated the Pirates will work to move up the ranks over the course of the season.

"It was exciting to have almost everyone race at such a big event," she wrote in an email to The SUN. "While we had great performances from everyone, we definitely have some work to do in these upcoming weeks to move up into a better position for State. Our region is a very strong region and we have some major competition, so the focus now is staying healthy and working our

and par on one hole.

14-team tournament.

and bogeys on six.

Pagosa teams hope to see movement toward getting their third through seventh runners closer to their first 40% Off Pond Supplies! and second. randi@pagosasun.com



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two holes and bogeys on three holes. bogeys on seven. Max Brown finished 19th with a 106. He recorded bogeys on six holes ■ See Golf A10

Club.

Galloway finished 56th with a 109,

On Monday, Sept. 9, the Pirates

The Pirates finished ninth at the

Liverett finished 18th with an 87,

Dimond ended the day 23rd with

90, logging par on six holes and

which included shooting eagle on

one hole, birdie on one, par on five

took part in the Gunnison High

School Invitational at Dos Rios Golf

Volleyball



SUN photo/Randi Pierce

The Lady Pirates log a set-winning block against the Telluride Miners on Saturday, Sept. 7. The Lady Pirates won 3-1 on the day.

Lady Pirates fall to Moose, defeat Miners

By Randi Pierce Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Lady Pirates went 1-1 over the last week to move to a 4-3 record on the season.

On Thursday, Sept. 5, the Lady Pirates welcomed the Alamosa Mean Moose to town, but sent the Mean Moose home with a 3-0 win.

Alamosa won the first set 25-12, the second set 25-13 and the third set 25-20.

"I was really proud of the girls for going up against a very tough team that's already like very well-oiled, and we are still pretty raw right now and have a ton of growth," said coach Katie Lorenzen.

She added she told the team after the game that she's excited by how much potential the team still has and that in that game against a "really good, tough team" they never gave up, never gave up on each other and finished strong.

"Even though we lost in three, our

The coach highlighted the Lady Pirates' passing in the game.

"We passed really well that game against a tough team, which was great so that we had an opportunity to run an offense, but we never did get in an offensive rhythm," she said. "Our block had to work harder than they have at all this season and going up against a middle from Alamosa that jumped so high, was so quick, and their setter could get her the ball at a speed that we ... can't even replicate at practice."

She added she was proud of the Lady Pirates' middles for working hard to get to every block and to have to commit block, which is something she noted they haven't really had to do in practice.

"So, ... I was really impressed by just how hard they worked and [followed directions," Lorenzen said.

Lorenzen also highlighted Pagosa's seven aces and two service

errors. "That was nice. We were serving tough and kept our errors really low,"

she said. Lexi Campbell recorded three of those aces, with Cadence Kerns and Dawson Iverson recording two each.

Campbell led the team with 11 serving points. Aspen Pitcher logged four of the

team's 13 kills, with Kerns tallying The Lady Pirates had six blocks in

the matchup, with Pitcher logging the

team's solo block and Kerns leading been since 2019 that ... we've been with four assisted blocks.

from Kerns. Sophia Sottek led the team in as-

The team had 24 digs, led by six

sists with eight of the team's 12. Pitcher led the team in serve receptions with 25 of the team's total

The Lady Pirates rebounded with a 3-1 win against the Telluride Miners on Saturday, Sept. 7.

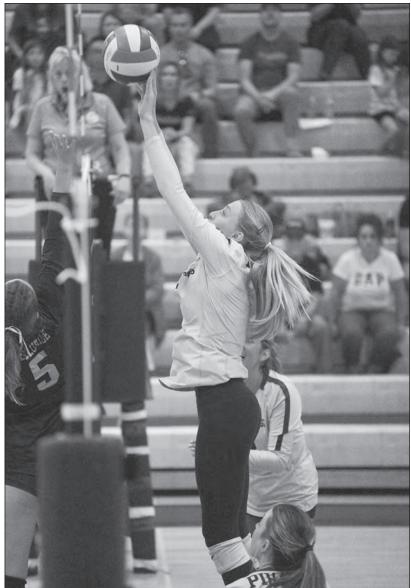
The Lady Pirates won the first set 26-24, fell 25-19 in the second, won 25-21 in the third and completed the victory with a 25-12 win in the fourth set.

"It was nice to get the win at home," Lorenzen said, pointing out the Lady Pirates also switched their home bench to the other end of the court for the game. "it's pretty much

on that side of the court because we used to switch between every single set, but the state refs have still voted to not switch sides in between sets. So, we'd wanted to do this before, but this year we just told the girls we are gonna flip-flop every home game or so. That way we have a different view as coaches behind our outside hitters instead of spending almost the entire season only behind our ... setter and right-side hitters and having only

She added almost every gym the team goes to they end up on the same end of the bench.

"So, it was really nice to have a different view," she said, adding it allowed them to see for the outside hitters what was available and where Telluride wasn't blocking.



Lady Pirate Cadence Kerns sends the ball over the net during the team's win over the Telluride Miners on Saturday, Sept. 7. The Lady Pirates improved to 4-3 on the season with the win.

crushed it," she said. "It was really, really fun to see. Both of our outsides ended up with 10 kills." Campbell led the team in overall

"And both outside hitters just

points with her 10 kills and six aces, Lorenzen noted, and had a doubledouble, also tallying 16 digs.

Pitcher also had a double-double with 10 kills and 13 digs.

Lorenzen noted Iverson logged the best hitting percentage on the team for the game, adding she had eight kills, kept the ball in play and was aggressive.

she's going for the slides and that is what her job is when she's in the front row next to the setter, so she's done a great job with that," the coach said. Both setters were in the best

"So, that was really nice to see, and

rhythm they've been in all season, the coach pointed out.

Hayden Peterson had 17 assists in the matchup, and Sottek had 13.

The coach noted the team had too many service errors, but indicated being on the other side of the gym and having different depth perception with how much space is behind the north side of the court.

"We had a little bit of ups and downs, and we made some switches with liberos that was planned," Lorenzen said, adding both Charity Domingo and Amber Snarr did a great job going in, bringing a lot of energy ■ See Volleyball on A12

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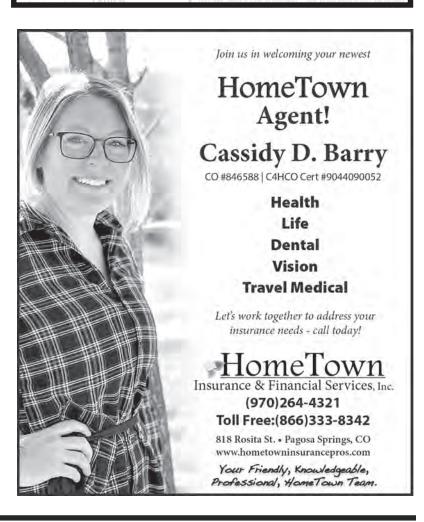
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Golf

■ Continued from A9

which included shooting birdie on one hole and bogeys on six. The Pirates finished tied for eighth

as a team at the 16-team Dalton Ranch Invite in Durango Tuesday, Sept. 10. Smith finished fourth on the day

holes, par on 11 holes and bogeys Liverett finished 46th with a 94,

with a 75, shooting birdies on three

shooting birdie on one hole, par on

three and bogeys on seven. Dimond shot a 97 to finish 54th,

shooting par on four holes and bogeys on five.

Max Brown finished 66th with a 103, shooting par on two holes and bogeys on six.

tournament and finished tied for eighth with a 109.

Galloway took part in the girls'

She shot par on two holes and bogeys on three.

Faber noted there were "some really bright spots" and some tough parts at each tournament.

Smith, he indicated, played alright, but was battling "a bit of an

injury" that resulted in him not playing in Gunnison and that he played through on Tuesday in Durango.

"He's still playing well," Faber said. Faber indicated the rest of the team is working hard.

On Monday, Sept. 16, the Pirates will play at the Chuck Soria Boys Invitational in Kirtland, N.M., at Riverview Golf Course. Faber indicated the team will con-

tinue to work on improving consistency moving toward the regional tournament later this month. randi@pagosasun.com

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FOOTBALL

Pirates lose by one to Centauri

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate football team lost 21-20 in their match up against the Centauri Falcons last Friday, Sept. 6, in La Jara.

"We got ourselves in a hole early in the game and we had to fight our way out of it ... we gave [Centauri] momentum early and so we had to claw back out of a hole, so that's what made it tough," coach Nathan Morales said.

The Falcons went up by 14 early in the first quarter, scoring a rushing touchdown and from a pick-six thrown by Pirate quarterback Creede Dozier.

The Pirates were able to get on the board toward the end of the first quarter with a 49-yard rushing touchdown by Colton Lucero.

Morales mentioned that any time you give a team a 14-point lead early on in the game, it's always going to be a challenge.

When asked about motivating the team, Morales said, "I don't have to do anything. I think it's just in those kids. That's our culture — we just keep fighting."

He explained the Pirates don't focus on the score and "we go until the game's over."

The score remained 14-6 in favor of the Falcons until early in the fourth quarter when Lucero scored another rushing touchdown, this time for 25 yards.

The Pirates were then able to convert a two-point extra-point attempt with a run by Seth Ziegler, tying the game at 14-14.

The Falcons scored on their next possession and converted an extrapoint attempt to retake the lead at 21-14

The Pirates were then able to score on their following drive with a 21yard pass from Dozier to Jaxten Schiel.

The Pirates chose to go for another two-point extra-point attempt that would've given them the lead, but failed, leaving the score at 21-20 in favor of the Falcons.

Morales mentioned the Pirates defense played well, highlighting Tommy Nigro's performance on the night.

Nigro and Zeigler each recorded a team high of seven tackles, with Nigro having three tackles for loss and



Photo courtesy Pagosa Springs High School

Colton Lucero breaks away from Centauri defenders during the Pirates game against the Falcons on Sept. 6. Lucero led the Pirates in rushing on the night with a total of 226 yards and two touchdowns.

Zeigler logging one tackle for a loss. "I thought our defense played well

as a whole," Morales said.

The Pirates logged a total of 40 tackles on the night and forced two

tackles on the night and forced two turnovers.

Nigro recorded one fumble recov-

ery and Schiel came away with one interception.

Morales also commented on the

Pirates' offense, mentioning they missed a few opportunities early on in the game.

"I've got to do a better job of making sure we're all prepared for everything," he said, noting the Pirates will be working to capitalize on opportunities like that going forward.

Dozier ended the night with a total of 53 passing yards, completing five out of nine attempts with one touch-

down and one interception.

Dozier also logged a total of 48 rushing yards on 18 carries.

Ziegler had one rushing attempt for 1 yard. Lucero carried the ball 24 times for

a total of 226 yards and two touch-downs.

Schiel pulled in two receptions for a total of 30 yards and one touchdown. Ziegler also had two receptions for 23 yards and Lucero had one reception for 10 yards.

"Last week's loss I put on myself. The kids played well enough to win," Morales added, explaining the Pirates gave the Falcons some help. "That's my fault."

The Pirates are on their bye week this week, with their next game scheduled for Friday, Sept. 20, at 7 p.m. against Monte Vista at Golden Peaks Stadium.

It will be the Pirates' first home game of the year, and also the school's homecoming game.

Morales mentioned that the team is looking to "shore up early-season things," in preparation for their next

"I think they're pretty focused on the task at hand," he said. "They got a bad taste in their mouth from last week, and I think they're hungry and ready to go."

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Soccer

Pirates earn second win of season

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

The Pagosa Springs High School Pirate boys' soccer team traveled to Aztec, N.M., on Saturday, Sept. 7, defeating the Aztec Tigers 5-0.

Coach Trevor Gian mentioned there were "a lot of good things" displayed by the Pirates in their win against the Tigers.

The Pirates went up 3-0 in the first half and logged two more goals in the second half, bringing the final score to 5-0.

The team tallied 23 total shots on goal, with Gavin Carter recording a hat trick.

Chance Ramirez and Christopher Young-Martinez each scored a goal as well.

Ryan Rich had two assists on the day, with Ryder King, Jacob Castaneda and Angelo Medina each recording one assist.

Gian noted the Pirates were able to generate "some really quality play there for a bit," explaining that a couple of the Pirates' goals came from "great through balls" that got in behind the Tigers' defense.

He also mentioned that some of the Pirates' other goals came as a result of some quality individual efforts. "I think it was a mixed bag of that,"

Gian also gave credit to Aztec's goalkeeper, commenting that the Tiger goalie "had some really fantastic saves" and was in a good position a

lot of the time.

"We could've put a lot more away,"
Gian said, explaining that the Pirates had numerous quality scoring

"That was a little disappointing," Gian said, explaining that Aztec was able to stay in the game for a while with the Pirates unable to capitalize on all of their scoring chances.

"We can do better with that going forward, hopefully," Gian said. "Basically, at the end of the day, we gotta

find a way to put those away."

Gian explained that the match was similar to the Pirates' game against

Montezuma-Cortez in that both teams battled hard and at times challenged the Pirates.

"We kind of left Aztec in it," he added.

The Pirates received two yellow cards during the Aztec match, with Ramirez and Jonathon Rodriguez each receiving a caution.

Gian explained the game had "a lot of life" and that the Pirates' yellow cards were a result of it being a tough physical matchup.

"The game did get physical," Gian added, noting that's just part of the

Official stats for Aztec were not available as of press time on Wednesday, but Pirate goalkeeper Young-Martinez recorded 13 saves on the day.

Young-Martinez was subbed out of goal in the last 10 minutes and moved to a forward position, in which he was able to notch the last goal for

the Pirates.

Gian explained that he was hoping to get more players some experience and get them some playing time since there was no junior varsity-level game scheduled, but, unfortunately, the game was "a little tighter than I anticipated there."

He added, "Any time I can, I'll try to get those guys in."

He also mentioned the Pirates displayed some quality build-up play from the back and through the midfield, but that there are still some things the team needs to work on defensively.

Gian mentioned the Tigers were physical and had speed on their team, which gave the Pirates some problems.

"They did find a couple ways to break us down defensively," he said.

Gian explained the Pirates are still trying to find the right personnel groups and see where each player fits best positionally.

"A lot of those freshmen are going

to start finding some time," Gian said.

He also mentioned the Pirates'

He also mentioned the Pirates' communication with each other on the field is starting to improve.

"I've been pretty vocal myself and I need to kind of back off on some of that and let them find their voice, which I think is starting to click," he said.

Gian mentioned the team is full of quality players and that they just need to find a way to put it all together.

"We got some really, really quality players — a really good team," Gian added. "They found a way to win in a tough game."

The Pirates will be playing three games over the next week with a road trip to Denver on Friday, Sept. 13 to take on DSST: Montview at 4 p.m.

Then on Saturday, Sept. 14, the Pirates will be in Manitou Springs to take on the Mustangs at 11 a.m.

On Tuesday, Sept. 17, the Pirates will travel to Crested Butte to face off against the Titans at 4 p.m.

When asked about the team's fitness levels and if they'll be prepared for the three game stretch, Gian replied, "We're definitely gonna find out."

He noted that Manitou Springs and Crested Butte will both be quality opponents.

"I think Manitou is going to be very, very quality," he said, "It's gonna be tough."

Gian explained that he is not focused solely on the match results, but more so on improving and wanting to see the Pirates put in a solid effort with the "desire to try and get better," especially against quality teams.

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Photo courtesy Janine Emmets

Sophomores Justin Sewell (right) and Van Halterman make their way down the corkscrew at the end of the course at the Haymaker Classic in Eagle

DUST2 team takes sixth at Haymaker Classic

riders competing.

By Adelyn Hittle

DUST2

To continue the exciting race season, the Pagosa DUST2 high school mountain biking team attended the second race of the season in Eagle, Colo., (6,683 feet elevation) at the Haymaker Classic last Saturday.

The course consists of a 6-mile counterclockwise loop with 600 feet of elevation gain. The loop continually switches between winding uphills and crossing rough dusty fields, with fun rock rollers and bridges spread throughout. Once riders crested the last hill, they were shot into an exhilarating large slalom downhill that spectators could view from the finish line. With very hot and dusty conditions, the riders made sure to hydrate well and tried to stay cool.

DUST2 had 13 riders compete in

the Eagle race.

The sophomore boys' division started the day, racing two laps with 72 competitors. With six DUST2 riders, this was the team's largest division. Pushing off at 8:30 a.m. with great conditions, Jackson Chaney came in first for the team in the 16th position with a time of 58 minutes. Next to finish was Van Halterman in 36th position with a time of 1:03. Shortly after Halterman, Justin Sewell rolled in at 39th position with a time of 1:03. After some mechanical difficulties, Aaron Sowle was next to come in with a time of 1:04 in 44th position. Despite mechanical difficulties at the start and a five-minute penalty, Eric Smith made up time to finish in 59th with a time of 1:11. Rounding out the sophomore boys, Heath Leentjes finished with a time of 1:19 to place 65th. Racing at 9:55 a.m., the JV boys

As the race wore on, it was starting to heat up, so racers tried to cool off one lap through by dumping water on themselves. Crossing the finish line first for the team was Weston Philips, junior, in 16th position with a time of 55 minutes. Philips earned 430 points for the team. James Jolley, senior, came in next for the team with a time of 1:09 with a finish of 74th out of 102 racers. Jolley gained 15 spots from his starting position in this race.

The next race was varsity girls, racing three laps in the growing heat. DUST2's only varsity rider, Rylie Carr, senior, started at 11:20 a.m. Carr raced three consistent laps and finished in 16th position with a time of 1:42. Carr contributed 465 points to the team.

The last races of the day, during peak heat, were the JV girls at 1 p.m.

were next to start, with two DUST2 and freshman girls at 1:10 p.m., with four DUST2 racers.

Racing two laps, Adelyn Hittle,

■ See DUST2 on A13

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§ Elizabeth SMART





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Volleyball

■ Continued from A10

and giving their all to the team.

Cadence Kerns had a total of eight great job and worked really hard to get all over the place.

The team had 10 total blocks. Pitcher led the team in serve re-

ceptions with 30. "It was nice to get our first win of matchup.

the season at home," Lorenzen said.

games over the next week, begin- Pirates are 0-1 in league action. blocks, two solo and six assisted, the ning with an away matchup against coach pointed out, noting she did a Del Norte at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 12.

> The Tigers are 7-0 on the season. At 1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 14, the Lady Pirates will welcome the Montezuma-Cortez Panthers for a league

The Panthers are 6-6 on the season The Lady Pirates will have three and 1-0 in league play, while the Lady

> On Tuesday, Sept. 17, the team will again hit the road, this time to take on the Bayfield Wolverines at 6 p.m.

> The Wolverines are 3-5 on the season and 0-1 in league play.

Lorenzen noted the Lady Pirates are looking forward to getting "better and better."

District Court Archuleta County, Colorado Court Address: 109 Harman Park Dr. Pagosa Springs, Co 81147 In the Matter of the Estate of: Sally Faye Hovatter, Case Number: 2024PR30050

NOTICE TO CREDITORS AND NOTICE OF ANCILLARY PROBATE AND APPOINTMENT OF

ADMINISTRATOR TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN SAID ESTATE: You are hereby notified that on the 21st day of August 2024, the estate of the above named decedent was admitted to ancillary probate by the above named court and that Jill Montreuil, of Estherville, Iowa was appointed as the domiciliary foreign personal representative (Administrator) of the decedent's Colorado estate. Notice is further given that all persons indebted to the decedent or to her estate are requested to make immediate payment to the undersigned.

You are hereby further notified that all persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the undersigned or to the District Court of Archuleta County, Colorado, on or before:

October 17, 2024 or said claims may be forever barred. DATED: this 28th day of August, 2024. Personal Representative Jill Montreuil, by and through

P.O. Box 1309 Saratoga, Wyoming 82331 Published September 5, 12, 19, 2024 in *The Pagosa* Springs SUN. (245087)

Case No 68211 08

Last Known Address: P.O. Box 1794, Pagosa Springs CO 81147 Bevan & Associates has filed an Application to Approve Settlement and Distribution of Wrongful Death and Sur-

vival Claims in Lorain County Probate Court. A hearing will be held on the Application, October 1, 2024, at 8:00 o'clock a.m. in the Wayne County Probate Court, 107 West Liberty Street, Wooster, Ohio, 44691. Published August 29 and September 5 & 12, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (244459)

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7, COLORADO WATER RESUME

(This publication can be viewed in its entirety on the state court website at: www.courts.state.co.us) TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLI-CATIONS IN SAID WATER DIVISION NO. 7

Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are notified that the following is the resume of all water right applications filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during the month of August 2024, for Archuleta County.

2024CW3029 Archuleta County, Application for Absolute and Conditional Water Rights; 1. Applicant: Jon B.

Bruss and Mozhdeh B. Bruss c/o Kimberly C. Perdue Southwest Water and Property Law LLC, 679 E. 2nd Ave. Unit 10, Durango, CO 81301; (970) 422-5510; kperdue@swpropertylaw.com. 2. Structure: a. Bruss Pond 1; i. In the SE 1/4 of Section 19, Township 35 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M. UTM Coordinates: 13 S, 323669 m E, 4125012 m N; ii. Source: Wastewater from a terminal lateral of the Park Ditch; iii. Appropriation date: July 1, 2018; iv. Amount: 1.4 acre feet, absolute; v. Use: Irrigation, livestock watering, pond filling, and fire suppression: 2b. Bruss Lot 7 Waste water Diversion No. 1; i. In the SE 1/4 of Section 19, Township 35 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M. UTM Coordinates: 13 S, 323669 m E, 4125012 m N; ii. Source Wastewater from a terminal lateral of the Park Ditch iii. Appropriation date: July 1, 2018; iv. Amount: 0.25 cfs, conditional, v. Use: Irrigation, livestock watering, pond filling, and fire suppression; 2c. Bruss Pond 2; i. In the SE 1/4 of Section 19, Township 35 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M. UTM Coordinates 13 S, 324112 m E, 4125129 m N; ii. Source: Wastewater from a termina lateral of the Park Ditch; iii. Appropriation date: July 1, 2018; iv. Amount: 3.0 acre feet, absolute; v. Use: Irrigation, livestock watering, pond filling, and fire suppression; 2d. Bruss Lot 6 Wastewater Diversion No. 2; i. In the SE 1/4 of Section 19, Township 35 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M. UTM Coordinates: 13 S, 324112 m E, 4125129 m N; ii. Source: Wastewater from a termina lateral of the Park Ditch; iii. Appropriation date: July 1, 2018; iv. Amount: 0.3 cfs, conditional; v. Uses: Irrigation, livestock watering, pond filling, and fire suppression; 2e. Bruss Pond 3; i. In the SE 1/4 of Section 19, Township 35 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M. UTM Coordinates: 13 S 324359 m E, 4125157 m N; ii. Source: Wastewate from a terminal lateral of the Park Ditch; iii. Appropriation date: September 5, 2018; iv. Amount: 3.0 acre feet. conditional; v. Use: Irrigation, livestock watering, pond filling, and fire suppression; 2f. Bruss Lot 5 Wastewater Diversion No. 3; i. In the SE 1/4 of Section 19, Township 35 North, Range 1 West, N.M.P.M. UTM Coordinates: 13 S 324359 m E, 4125157 m N; ii. Source: Wastewater from a terminal lateral of the Park Ditch; iii. Appropriation date: September 5, 2018; iv. Amount: 0.75 cfs. conditional; v. Use: Irrigation, livestock watering, pond filling, and fire suppression. 3. Applicant is the owner of the land upon which these structures are located. See map filed with application. (6 pages including exhibits)
THE WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED BY THE FOREGO-ING APPLICATION(S) MAY AFFECT IN PRIORITY ANY WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED OR HERETOFORE ADJUDICATED WITHIN THIS DIVISION AND OWN-ERS OF AFFECTED RIGHTS MUST APPEAR TO OB-JECT AND PROTEST WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY STATUTE, OR BE FOREVER BARRED

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE until the last day of October 2024, to file with the Water Clerk, a verified Statement of Opposition, setting forth facts as to why a certain application should not be granted or why it should be granted only in part or on certain conditions. A copy of such Statement of Opposition must also be served upon the applicant or the ap-

Public Notices by Rule 5, CRCP. (Filing fee: \$192.00; Forms are available through the Office of the Water Clerk or on the Judicial web site at www.courts.state.co.us; Jason Poyer, Water Court Specialist, 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Room 106,

Water Court Specialist Published: <u>before September 30, 2024</u>
Published September 12, 2024 in *The Pagosa Springs* SUN. (245685)

Durango, CO 81301; 970-247-2304)

/s/ Jason Poyer

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION 7, COLORADO WATER RESUME

(This publication can be viewed in its entirety on the state court website at: www.courts.state.co.us) TO: ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN WATER APPLI-

CATIONS IN SAID WATER DIVISION NO. 7 Pursuant to C.R.S. 37-92-302, you are notified that the following is the resume of all water right applications filed in the Office of the Water Clerk during the month of

August 2024, for Archuleta County 2024CW3028 ARCHULETA COUNTY, WATER DIS-TRICT NO. 78: 1) Applicants: Alan and Barbara Sack man, 13211 West Highway 160, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. **2) Attorneys**: Adam T. Reeves and Lindsey A. Ratcliff, Maynes, Bradford, Shipps & Sheftel, LLP, 835 Second Avenue, Suite 123, Durango, CO 81302. 3) Type of Application: Application Conditional Under ground Water Right, To Make Storage Right Absolute, and Plan for Augmentation. 4) Applicants request entry of a decree for the following conditional underground water right: Original Decree: Case No. 09CW16, District Court, Water Division 7, entered December 7, 2011 ("09CW16 Decree"). Legal Description: SW1/4 SE1/4 SW 1/4 Section 5, T34N, R3W, NMPM, 435 feet from South section line and 1429 feet from West Section lines. UTM Coordinates: E0301857, N4123692 (Applicants have applied for a well permit to replace Barb's Well at a location 50 feet northeast of the original location. Applicants will specify the exact location in the decree.). Source: Devil Creek, tributary to the Piedra and San Juan Rivers; Uses: Commercial for 18seat restaurant. Amount: 50 gpm, not exceed 15 AF/ year, conditional. Permits: Permit No. 77059-F. Applicants have applied for a well permit to replace Barb's Well and will submit a well application to change the permitted uses to include commercial use in the 18-seat restaurant. 5) Applicants request entry of a decree making absolute the conditional portions of the fol-lowing storage water right: Original Decree: Case No. 88CW63, District Court, Water Division 7, entered July 1989 ("88CW63 Decrees"). Subsequent Decrees: Case No. 88CW64, District Court, Water Division 7, entered July 6, 1989 ("88CW64 Decree"); Case No. 02CW46, District Court, Water Division 7, entered December 11, 2002 ("02CW46 Decree"); 09CW16 Decree. Legal Description: Pond: SW1/4 Section 5, T34N, R3W, N.M.P.M. Dam: SW1/4 NE1/4 SW1/4 and NW1/4 SE1/4

SW1/4 Section 5, T34N, R3W, N.M.P.M. Feeder Ditch: POD is at a point N1° 40' 38" W a distance of 1,500.33'

from the SW corner of Section 5, T34N, R3W, NMPM;

thence N 88° 19' 22" E, a distance of 1,463.56' to the headgate of the diversion ditch. Water is then conveyed through a 24" CMP S 7° 54' 37" E a distance of 222.50 $\,$ to the Keyah Grande Pond #2. <u>Source</u>: Devil Creek tributary to the Piedra and San Juan Rivers. <u>Uses</u>: Fishery and recreation in 88CW63 Decree and 88CW64 ecree; and augmentation, exchange, and fire fighting in 02CW46 Decree. Appropriation Dates: (a) July 1, 1986, for recreation and fishery uses in 88CW63 Decree, (b) June 1, 1935, for recreation and fishery uses (changed from Radcliff Devil Creek Ditch) in 88CW64 Decree, (c) October 2001, for augmentation, firefighting, and irrigation in 02CW46 Decree. Amount: 14 AF absolute, for recreation and fishery uses in 88CW63
Decree and for recreation and fishery uses (changed from Radcliff Devil Creek Ditch) in 88CW64 Decree; 14 AF conditional, for augmentation, firefighting, and irrigation in 02CW46 Decree. This application seeks to make absolute all remaining conditional portions of the Keyah Grande Pond #2 in accordance with C.R.S. § 37-92-301(e) ("A decreed conditional water storage right shall be made absolute for all decreed purposes to the extent of the volume of the appropriation that has been captured, possessed, and controlled at the decreed storage structure."). Surface Area: Approximately 2.36 acres. 6) Applicants request entry of a decree approving the following Plan for Augmentation: Structure to be Augmented: Barb's Well. Structure to be used for Augmentation: Keyah Grande Pond #2. Statement of Plan for Augmentation: Applicants' augmentation plans in the 02CW46 and 09CW16 Decrees currently provide replacement water for depletions from Barb's Well to Devil Creek for the water uses associated with lawn and garden irrigation, hot tub evaporation, live-stock, home and lodge use, and barn and shops use The Applicants now seek approval of a supplemental augmentation plan to replace out-of-priority depletions from Barb's Well associated with an 18-seat restaurant in an existing lodge located on the Keyah Grande Ranch. All out-of-priority depletions from Barb's 2 Well will be replaced in time, location, and amount by releases from the Keyah Grande Pond #2 to Devil Creek during periods of valid, senior calls entitled to such water. Accordingly, this Plan for Augmentation will allow the Applicants to divert from Barb's Well year-round for the restaurant uses. Augmentation Plan, Hydrologic Analysis, and Assumptions: Out-of-priority depletions and augmentation release requirements are calculated based on conservative calculations of water demands for Applicants' 18-seat restaurant described as follows and detailed in in the tables described in Exhibit A: (a) Project demands are shown in Table 1 of Exhibit A. The existing total annual water demand, as calculated in the 02CW46 and 09CW16 Decrees, for the lawn and garden irrigation, hot tub evaporation, livestock, home and lodge use, and barn and shops uses is 5.17 acre-feet With the addition of the restaurant's 1.01 acre-feet demand, the proposed total annual demand is 6.18 acrefeet. Restaurant demands are calculated using the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Regulation 43 (5 CCR 1002-43, Table 6-2),

Out-of-Priority Depletions are shown in Table 2 of Exhibit A. The 02CW46 and 09CW16 Decrees determined that depletion from Barb's Well occurred instantaneously to Devil Creek for uses associated with lawn and gar-den irrigation consumptive use, hot tub evaporation, livestock usage, and drinking and sanitary uses at the home, lodge, barn, and shops. The existing total annual out-of-priority depletion associated with these uses is 1.32 acre-feet. For the augmentation plan requested herein, a Glover Analysis was conducted for Barb's Well at its new (replacement) location and found that 95% of depletions occur within 2 months of pumping. With the addition of the 18-seat restaurant at 0.09 acre-feet of annual depletion, the total annual depletion is 1.41 acre-feet. The wastewater from the restaurant will be treated by existing onsite wastewater treatment sysms ("OWTS") located in the fields tributary to Devil Creek drainage. The consumptive use for OWTS was estimated at 15%, and a call period of April 1st to October 31st was utilized; (c) The monthly water balance is depicted in Table 3 of Exhibit A, which considers the well's delayed impacts, return flows, designated call period, evaporation from Keyah Grande Pond #2, and monthly storage availability. As shown in Column 8 of Table 3, Keyah Grande Pond #2 contains sufficient augmentation water to replace all out-of-priority depletions associated with the uses in the 02CW46 and 09CW16 Decrees in addition to the new depletions associated with the 18-seat restaurant. Operation of the Plan for Augmentation: Applicants propose this Plan for Augmentation designed to ensure the continuous diversion and use of water from Barb's Well to the extent that there may be future calls by senior water rights. Applicants will pump from Barb's Well when water is available in priority. During periods of administration on Devil Creek in response to a valid senior call, the following protocols shall apply: Monthly augmentation releases under this Plan for Augmentation shall be calculated as provided in Exhibit A for the pro rata portion of any month in which a senior call is active based on actual. measured diversions from Barb's Well; To augment the out-of-priority depletions that occur on Devil Creek, the Applicants will release water to Devil Creek from Keyah Grande Pond #2, consistent with the 02CW46 and 09CW16 Decrees. Up to 1.414 acre-feet of augmentation water will be released from Keyah Grande Pond #2 through its outlet pipe. The augmentation release amounts shall be released on a schedule determined by the Division Engineer. 7) Land Ownership: Applicants own the land upon which all structures applied for herein are or will be constructed. (9 pages including THE WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED BY THE FOREGO-

ING APPLICATION(S) MAY AFFECT IN PRIORITY ANY WATER RIGHTS CLAIMED OR HERETOFORE ADJUDICATED WITHIN THIS DIVISION AND OWN-ERS OF AFFECTED RIGHTS MUST APPEAR TO OB-JECT AND PROTEST WITHIN THE TIME PROVIDED BY STATUTE, OR BE FOREVER BARRED

YOU ARE HEREBY NOTIFIED THAT YOU HAVE until the last day of October 2024, to file with the Water facts as to why a certain application should not be certain conditions. A copy of such Statement of Opposition must also be served upon the applicant or the applicant's attorney

and an affidavit or certificate of such service shall be filed with the Water Clerk, as prescribed by Rule 5, CRCP. (Filing fee: \$192.00; Forms are available through the Office of the Water Clerk or on the Judicial web site at www.courts.state.co.us; Jason Poyer, Water Court Specialist, 1060 E. 2nd Ave., Room 106 Durango, CO 81301; 970-247-2304) /s/ Jason Poyer

Water Court Specialist Published: before September 30, 2024 Published September 12, 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (245678)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PUR-SUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S. NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Eugene Martinez Jr., aka Gene Martinez Case Number <u>2024 PR 30051</u>

All persons having claims against the above-named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta, County, Colorado on or before January 5, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred.

Daniel L. Fiedler, Attorney at Law 190 Talisman Drive, Suite D-6 Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

Published September 5, 12, 19, 2024 in The Pagosa

NOTICE TO CREDITORS BY PUBLICATION PUR-SUANT TO § 15-12-801, C.R.S. NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Estate of Jani Candelaria, AKA Jani Louise Candelaria, Case Number <u>2024PR30052</u>

All persons having claims against the above named estate are required to present them to the personal representative or to the District Court of Archuleta, County Colorado on or before January 12, 2025, or the claims may be forever barred.

Kelcie Candelaria Arboles, CO 81121 Published September 12, 19, and 26 2024 in The Pagosa Springs SUN. (245744)

The following customers have a past due account with Mountain View Mini Storage, 146 Frontier Avenue, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Your storage units will be auctioned off if I am not contacted by you or receive immediate payment. I am willing to set up a payment plan. (970) 264-4476. Cadence Green, Brandor hames, Jorge Jurado, Tammy Turne Published September 12 and 19, 2024 in The Pagosa

Springs SUN. (245713)

Parks and rec board discusses Conservation Trust Fund

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

At a Sept. 5 meeting, the Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board discussed multiple upcoming projects that both the Town of Pagosa Springs and Archuleta County are planning to fund through their Conservation Trust Fund accounts.

Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation Director Darren Lewis explained that the town council has approved \$20,000 from Conservation Trust Fund funds to go toward the addition of two bronze sheep statues to be placed with the new Weeminuche Meadow sheep herder statue.

He noted that the Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners (BoCC) approved \$10,300 from its Conservation Trust Fund for that project as well.

Lewis mentioned the Pagosa Springs Arts Council is raising money for a third bronze sheep statue to be added as well.

Lewis also explained that the town and county have both approved \$25,000 for the construction of a bike skills park at Yamaguchi Park South.

"So, that's exciting," Lewis said. He went on to mention the east gateway river park project intended to create additional boater access on the San Juan River near the junction of U.S. 84 and U.S. 160.

On Sept. 3, the Pagosa Springs Town Council approved a motion directing staff to enter into negotiations for the purchase of about four acres of property located at 1040 E. U.S. 160.

Lewis explained that in order to purchase the property, the town is going after a Colorado Outdoors (GOCO) grant in the amount of \$420,000 that needs "some type of match."

He noted that the town's 2025

proposed budget includes a \$50,000 match from the town's Conservation Trust Fund.

"This is going to help with the purchase price of the property," Lewis said.

At a work session held by the BoCC on Aug. 27, Pagosa Springs Project Manager David Hilborn requested \$30,000 from the county's Conservation Trust Fund to go to $ward\,the\,match\,needed\,for\,the\,GOCO$

Hilborn indicated the town is also going after funds available through the Land and Water Conservation Fund to help with the project.

During the work session, commissioner Ronnie Maez expressed support for the project, saying, "In my mind I don't think this is an oppor-

tunity we should pass up." Commissioner Warren Brown also expressed support for the project.

"I think this is a program we should support," he said.

Hilborn indicated the county could wait until 2025 to approve the \$30,000 request form the Conservation Trust Fund.

During a regular meeting on Sept. 3, the BoCC approved a letter of support for the project.

During the parks and recreation board meeting on Sept. 5, Lewis indicated the purchase price of the property is \$745,000.

During the same meeting, the parks and recreation board also unanimously approved a letter of support for the project.

Board member Jenny Highum asked what the current balance is for the town's Conservation Trust Fund.

Lewis explained that the town generally receives approximately \$20,000 from the state annually dedicated to the Conservation Trust Fund, and the county usually receives about \$100,000.

The county then gives \$60,000 of that to the town "to help the town and support recreation because of the

amount of parks that the town has." Lewis noted that the town's balance after approving funds for projects this year is at about \$46,000.

He went on to explain that if everything is approved, including the east gateway river park project, "we'll spend \$179,500," between the town and county combined.

"That's going to leave a minimal balance with the town," Lewis said. He noted that Conservation Trust Fund funds are only allowed to be used for park projects.

Lewis also mentioned he has never budgeted to drain the entire Conservation Trust Fund, "which is basically what's going to occur for

Lewis noted that given what the town has to spend on capital improvement projects, "I'm really trying to do as much as I possibly can with the funds out of Conservation Trust

He added that in 2026 the fund we'll be replenished with \$80,000.

"So, it goes up pretty quick," he Lewis explained that if the town

does not receive the GOCO grant then the \$50,000 will not be drained from the fund and could be used on a different project.

"If everything works out, which I hope it does, we'll only have a few thousand dollars in Conservation Trust leftover, but there will be a lot of things that have gotten accomplished with that money for next year," Lewis

The board also unanimously approved a letter of support for the multipurpose pavilion project at Yamaguchi Park South.

Lewis explained that, in November 2023, the town set aside a piece of property located south of the pickleball courts for the construction of a multipurpose pavilion that will cost roughly \$3.5 million.

"That's a lot of money," board member Sally High commented.

Wi-Fi in parks

During the Sept. 5 meeting, Lewis also gave an update on Wi-Fi being installed in some of the town's parks.

He indicated that public Wi-Fi is now available at Mary Fisher Park, Town Park, Yamaguchi Park, South Pagosa Park and Centennial Park.

"So, there's access to Wi-Fi at all those parks," he said.

Lewis explained this was a project that was "pushed" by the town coun-

"There's positives and negatives to that I feel," he added.

Other news

During the Sept. 5 meeting, Lewis explained that board member Josh Sanchez stepped down from his position on the board.

He indicated that the board is now in the process of finding a new representative of the Archuleta School District to fill Sanchez's spot.

Lewis also gave an update on the town's Halloween Hootenanny event planned for Oct. 26. He explained the event will run from noon to 5 p.m. this year, and there will be no fireworks show.

Also during the Sept. 5 meeting, the board unanimously approved resolution 2024-02, approving the board's goals.

The board voted to add property acquisition as a long-term goal.

"Everything else pretty much stayed the same," Lewis said.

clayton@pagosasun.com





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■ Continued from A12

sophomore, came in third with a time of 1:02. Hittle contributed 521 points to the team. Next to cross the finish line was Sophia Alexander, sophomore, in seventh position with a time of 1:04. Alexander raced with a cast on

her right wrist and earned 488 points for the team. Riding in shortly after, Kaylee Hensle, junior, came in with a time of 1:17 to place 14th. Hensle

contributed 442 points to the team. Starting 10 minutes after the JV girls, the freshman girls began their race in their first mass start. DUST2's only freshman girl, Gianna Shaeffer, came in 10th with a time of 1:14 and added 427 points to the team.

DUST2 finished another amazing day of racing with 4,080 overall team points, placing sixth in their division.

Everyone on the team had a fantastic race, even through the heat, dust, and mechanical difficulties.

All of the DUST2 riders are excited to attend the third race of the season in Colorado Springs at the Lazy B Ranch Rally on Sept. 22.

Public Meetings

The following meetings are subject to change.

Thursday, Sept. 12

Executive Management Board of Archuleta County Emergency Communications Services meeting. 9:30 a.m., Archuleta County Sheriff's Office. Virtual access for the public is available at https:// us02web.zoom.us/j/7186713647, Zoom meeting ID 718 671 3647. For more information, visit http://ar-

chuletacounty.org/agendacenter. Main Street Advisory Board work session. 4 p.m., Pagosa Springs Visitor Center, 105 Hot Springs Blvd. For more information, visit https://pagosasprings.civicweb.

net/portal/.

Pagosa Springs board and commissions training. 5 p.m., Town Hall, 551 Hot Springs Blvd. See town website for participation information: https://pagosasprings.civicweb.

Monday, Sept. 16

San Juan Water Conservancy District **Special meeting.** 4 p.m., 46 Eaton Drive, Suite 5. Visit https://www. sjwcd.org/ for Zoom option.

Tuesday, Sept. 17

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners work session. 8:30 a.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners'

meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: https://zoom. us/j/91609048375?pwd=dlFFV0J 1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit http://archuletacounty. org/agendacenter.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners meeting. 1:30

p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. View Zoom meeting at: https://zoom. us/j/91609048375?pwd=dlFFV0J 1cGVKa1NHWHFsa2taeGxtZz09, meeting ID: 916 0904 8375, passcode: 4141885. For more information, visit http://archuletacounty. org/agendacenter.

Archuleta County Board of County Commissioners/Pagosa Springs Town Council joint work session. 5 p.m., Archuleta County administration building, commissioners' meeting room, 398 Lewis St. For more information, visit http://archuletacounty.org/agendacenter or https://pagosasprings.civicweb. net/portal/.

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As a former small business owner, I am all too familiar with the daily challenges our business community faces, to include employee hiring and retention and paying competitive wages and benefits. As someone who has purchased a home in our community, I understand many of the barriers faced by homebuyers. That is why championing attainable housing, whether it is through our Community Development Corporation or Habitat for Humanity just makes sense. Teamwork among public and private entities can make a dent in the housing challenge we face.

Lastly, I have worked tirelessly to keep every campaign promise I made to you. In doing so, it is my wish that my political legacy will have been to raise your expectations of what a county commissioner should be. I hope that we collectively demand that future commissioners commit to making this responsibility a full-time job and that we insist on having accountable commissioners who are genuinely interested in faithfully serving you the citizens of our wonderful county.

I am Warren Brown; it has been my honor serving you. I hope to continue to have this privilege, and I am asking you for your vote in the General Election, Tuesday November 5, 2024.



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Photos courtesy Pagosa Area Trails Council

The Pagosa Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest's trail crew, in partnership with the Pagosa Area Trails Councils, many other volunteer groups and youth trail crews, have been able to clear 95 percent to 100 percent of the district's trails in each of the last five years.

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Pagosa area trails cleared of downfall

By Bob Milford

Pagosa Area Trails Council

The Pagosa Ranger District of the San Juan National Forest's trail crew, in partnership with the Pagosa Area Trails Councils (PATC), many other volunteer groups and youth trail crews, have been able to clear 95 percent to 100 percent of the district's trails in each of the last five years.

Our goal when the "Clear the Trails" campaign started in 2019 was to get all Pagosa area trails cleared of the spruce beetle-killed trees that had been falling on our local trails at an epidemic rate. This goal of clearing 100 percent of the trails was achieved much sooner than originally planned.

The work of clearing and performing much-needed trail maintenance was accomplished by the Pagosa Ranger District trail crew, the Southwest Conservation Corps, American Conservation Experience, and by members of local user groups such as San Juan Outdoor Club, San Juan Back Country Horsemen, DUST2, Pagosa Trail Riders, Phantom Trail Clearers and local outfitters, who contributed

thousands of hours of volunteer labor. Many of these trails are located in the Weminuche and South San Juan wildernesses, where cross-cut saws must be used instead of chain saws

per the Wilderness Act of 1964.

The Pagosa Ranger District has 469 miles of summer trails, with 175 miles located in designated wilderness areas. Between 2019 and 2024, more cash match of \$100,000. This will than 30,000 trees were cleared from district trails.

Unfortunately, standing dead and

weakened green trees continue to fall each year on the trails and likely will continue to do so into the foreseeable future, with more than 5,000 downed trees needing clearing from trails annually. Our goal is to continue to keep these trails clear and safe each year. The Pagosa Ranger District and

PATC have jointly applied for and were awarded Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) State Trail maintenance grants in 2019 and 2022.

Over \$500,000 has been raised for the "Clear the Trails" campaign to hire trail crews and equipment.

These funds came from CPW State Trails grants and the cash matching portions were raised from local nonprofits, individuals, local government, businesses and local outfitters.

The grants and funds raised were critical to the successes realized thus far, without which we could not have come close to achieving our shared

The Pagosa Ranger District and PATC are again in the process of ap-

plying for a 2025 CPW State Trails grant for \$200,000 to continue trail clearing and maintenance.

The PATC's goal is to provide a provide \$300,000 to meet our trail clearing and maintenance needs over the next three years.

Additionally, a Conservation Fund has been established through a partnership between the Wolf Creek Ski Area and the National Forest Foundation (NFF), where local season ticket holders can donate \$5 that is matched by 50 percent by the NFF to be used for local forest conservation programs such as clearing dead trees on our national forest trails.

The PATC has set up a website for information on local trails at pagosatrails.org. It provides detailed trail descriptions with pictures and maps of trails in our area, plus current trail conditions, tips on Leave No Trace ethics and other helpful information. It also contains details on the "Clear the Trails" campaign and how you can help assist with the cause.

We invite you to check the website out and join us in our efforts to keep our local trails clear and safe, as well as conserve our local natural resources and wildlife, which are so important to our community and visitors alike.

Police Misconduct • Civil Rights Violations Wrongful Death

New website launched for Southwest Colorado **Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program**

By Lorena Williams U.S. Forest Service

The San Juan National Forest is pleased to announce the launching of a new website to provide information about its Southwest Colorado Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program (CFLRP).

The website, https://swcoforests. org, includes information about CFLRP-related projects and success stories, as well as resources ranging from partner information to wildfire preparedness.

The website was developed by a group of partners representing the **CFLRP Communications Commit**tee, led by chairperson Paulette Church.

"This website is a hub of information about forest restoration work from Dolores to Pagosa Springs, "said Church. "It invites residents to reach

out to dozens of partners to help with their missions. It's about our valuable trees and much more; the CFLRP will improve wildlife habitat, water quality, recreational use of our forest, the economic stability of our businesses and the means to protect us all from mega fires."

The purpose of the congressionally established Collaborative Forest Landscape Restoration Program is to encourage the collaborative, sciencebased ecosystem restoration of priority forest landscapes. The Southwest CFLRP includes a diverse group of stakeholders working together to carry out a shared vision of ecological restoration.

"We're excited to launch this public portal to share and highlight the important natural resource work taking place in the CFLRP landscape in Southwest Colorado" said Dave Neely, forest supervisor on the San Juan National Forest. "It's yet another example of the strong collaborative spirit that underpins all our shared efforts, and we thank the Communications Committee for their dedication

For more information, please contact Shared Stewardship Communications Specialist Lorena Williams at Lorena.williams@usda.gov or (970) 422-2939.

For information on the San Juan National Forest, call (970) 247-4874 or visit the forest website.

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Weminuche Audubon Society to meet Sept. 18

By Jean Zirnhelt Weminuche Audubon Society

This month the Weminuche Audubon Society will welcome Gary Skiba to our evening chapter meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 18.

Skiba comes to us from the San Juan Citizens Alliance (SJCA) in Durango, where he serves as the wildlife program manager. He joined the staff of SJCA in April 2020 and was a SJCA board member for several years prior

and spearheaded the agency's efforts on biodiversity conservation and ecosystem management. The SJCA traces its beginnings to 1986 and a group of people concerned about unchecked gas and oil development in the region. Today, the SJCA continues to advocate in a number of fields for a healthy envi-

> ronment in the San Juan Basin. Skiba will give an overview of the SJCA's programs, including protection of water, air, public lands and wildlife, and the organization's work on energy transition in Colorado and New Mexico. He will give an update on the status of the Village at Wolf Creek, a proposed development close

Skiba worked for the Colorado

Division of Wildlife for 23 years,

where he focused on threatened and

endangered species management

The public is invited to join us on Sept. 18 to learn about this important work by the SJCA.

We meet at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street. Enter through the side door closest to the parking lot or let us know to open the main doors for handicap entry. Enjoy refreshments with us starting at 6 p.m. prior to a short business meeting at 6:30 p.m. preceding the

In appreciation for our meeting space, contributions of nonperishable food for the church food bank are collected at our meetings. If you are unable to join us in person, a link to join on Zoom will be posted on our website, www.weminucheaudubon.



Photo courtesy Tom Clarke

Taking in the views went both ways at a residence off of Snowball Road on Sept. 3, with a bobcat neighbor taking in the view of a local home.

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Photo courtesy Nicola Gonzales

Youngster Levi Richardson, alongside his siblings, shows of a pair of fish caught at Village Lake on Aug. 11. The larger of the fish is a 3.5-pound trout measuring 20 inches long. The fish is the biggest Richardson has ever caught.

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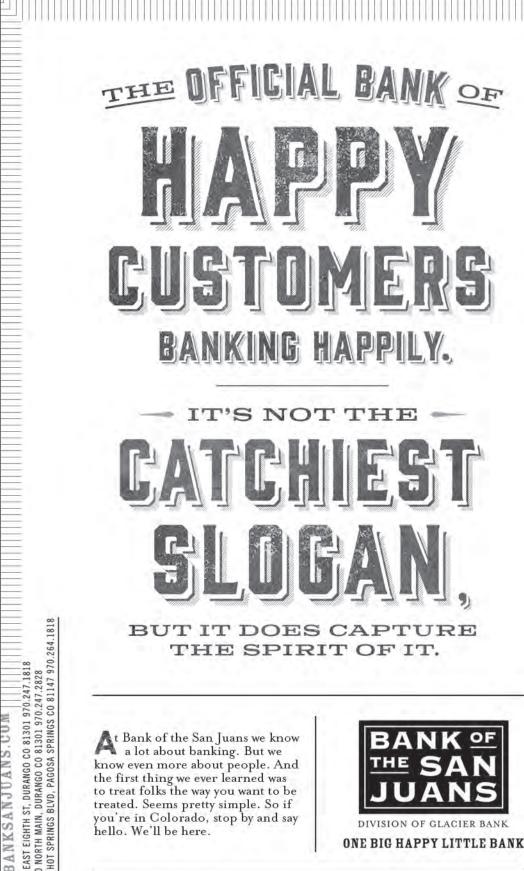




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Photo courtesy Kat McFadden **Members of the Main Street Kids** and Construction Committee tour the Pagosa Springs Middle School greenhouse. The committee is pursuing a grant for funds to replace the windows of the areenhouse.



Archuleta Democrats Annual Chili Supper



Facilities

■ Continued from front

assessment in order to determine if something is a top concern or of no concern at the moment.

He noted that the first layer looked at things that are requiring immediate action, like, "our middle school sewer." Next, the assessment looked at

things that will need to be replaced or improved within five years, and then items to address in six to 10 years.

Holt also explained that the assessment then looked into if the concern is a safety issue and if it has the potential to cause damage to the building.

"Last year the water line in the shop created pinhole leaks through the water line," Holt said, explaining the leaks were not at joints in the system but throughout the line itself because "the water lines are old."

Holt noted the assessment also considered things like if the building is in violation of current building codes, along with if an issue is simply a space problem.

Holt used the Pagosa Springs Elementary School library as an example of a space problem, explaining the building was built when "far less" students were attending it and that the library is only slightly bigger than a regular classroom.

Holt noted the library "doesn't match the space," also explaining the assessment considers ADA requirements, as well.

Holt indicated that the district met with RTA in recent weeks and that "there were some areas where they were saying, like, 'this is a really big

problem." Holt explained that ASD Chief of Operations Josh Sanchez will be meeting with RTA to finalize the assessment

ings will not be much better, or any bet-

ter, than their initial findings," Holt said. He explained that, according to the initial draft assessment findings, RTA is giving the elementary and middle

schools ratings of a D minus and a F.

Holt went on to explain that what RTA is saying, "based on 200 something schools they've done facilities reviews on, what they're saying is that we should be concerned."

He added, "We should be concerned about the state of our facilities."

ties master plan, which is required by the state to be updated approximately

every five years. "So, we're getting after that," he said. Holt explained that beginning in October and November the district will hold community meetings at the elementary, middle and high school campuses to inform the public of the assessment results and gather feedback

has not been done poorly in any way.

committed \$725,000 for facility repairs

schools as simply getting old," he said.

for the district to be updating its facili-

and improvements.

He noted that last year the BOE

"We need to start thinking about our

Holt noted that this is a great time

would like the district to move forward. "We'll start collecting feedback from folks via survey," he added.

from the community about how it

Holt explained that the district will go through multiple rounds of engaging with the public before presenting suggestions from the BOE on what to do.

"We want to make sure that we are supporting what the majority of our community is saying," he said, noting how this can be a divisive topic among the community.

Beginning in April 2025, the board will begin to present its proposal to the public, Holt explained.

Holt reminded the board that no decisions in regard to the facilities assessment have been made yet.

"I feel like some other public entities might be trying to speak for us," Holt said, explaining the board needs to be "slow and intentional about what

BOE president Bob Lynch asked if RTA will be present with the board during the process of engaging with

Holt confirmed that RTA will be at the October meeting to discuss the final assessment results and will also be available throughout the district's process of engaging with the public.

Holt commented that there is "something to be said about hearing about Pagosa from Pagosans."

He went on to mention the community had similar conversations back

"The buildings were old then. We've gone another 14 years; they're older now," he said.

difference between what the district

can fiscally afford and what "is just done."

"I want them to help our community see the difference there," he added. Board member Amanda Schick asked if there are certain areas that will be addressed in the meantime while the assessment results and community

engagement process are taking place. Holt indicated that there will be things addressed in the meantime and that the district has been using a process over the past two years to identify those issues.

"We want the public to know we're iggling big things," he said.

He further explained that the district is looking at how to handle issues immediately or within six months, along with coming up with a three-year and a five-year plan.

"It feels like we're going to be investing some money over the holidays this year," he said, commenting on the middle school sewer line, noting that regular cleanings will be taking place in order to address the problem immediately.

Holt also noted there are other concerns at the middle school such as field space, and middle school Principal Chris Hinger has requested new turf areas, but that the district has not been able to provide that due to other issues with higher properties.

"It's concerning that we have a middle school that doesn't have its own fields; like, that's starting to get really unusual," Holt said.

Middle school greenhouse repairs

The Pagosa Springs Main Street Kids and Construction Committee met with Holt on Monday, Sept. 9, to discuss the possibility of using a \$50,000 grant to replace the greenhouse windows at the

Committee member Rosanna Dufour explained that the committee came across the grant through Main Street America, which is being offered by T-Mobile for towns with populations under 50,000.

"We're hoping that it'll be enough to replace the windows in the greenhouse," she said.

Holt indicated that the district would be in support of the committee's efforts.

Dufour indicated that the committee is also interested in creating a public Wi-Fi hot zone with the grant funds

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Holt noted that these results do not necessarily reflect that the work of the Holt added that he wants to make sure people see and understand the district's crews and the BOE's investas well. ment financially over the past few years

By Clayton Chaney Staff Writer

been formed, called the Pagosa Area Recreation Coalition (PARC), spanning Archuleta, Mineral and Hinsdale During a regular meeting held by

A new recreation coalition has

the Combined Parks and Recreation Advisory Board (which includes Archuleta County and the Town of Pagosa Springs) held on Sept. 5, board member Larry Lynch provided an update on the newly formed PARC. Lynch explained that the U.S. For-

est Service "has been interested in looking at the recreational aspects within the district," after plans for a bike trail system at Jackson Mountain fell through last summer. "The district ranger has expressed

a desire to possibly look at some new recreational developments within the district," Lynch said. Lynch explained the PARC will

have representation from all three counties, the Forest Service, local tribes and multiple other organizations, including the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association and the San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership.

"The idea is there's going to be some public meetings coming up over the winter," Lynch said, explaining that people will be able to bring up ideas, thoughts and suggestions for

improvements. He explained that projects can include things like construction or

improving trailheads, new trails, trail connectors and restrooms. "Any of those types of improve-

New recreation coalition formed

ments," Lynch added, noting projects can include existing town and county trails and parks. "We've modeled it after Chaffee

County," Lynch said. He explained that Chaffee County

"went through this process a couple years ago and a really successful run at it," generating over 90 improvement projects and bringing in "quite a bit of money." Lynch explained that the PARC

may not be on the same size or scale of Chaffee County, but it is intended to be "something to bring the community together and see where it goes" while identifying needs and wants

throughout the district. Lynch added the group will focus

on conservation and wildlife protection, as well. He also explained that a task force

of 30 to 40 people will be organized to meet regularly with PARC's leadership group. Lynch noted that Pagosa Springs Project Manager David Hilborn, Rec-

reation Supervisor Amanda Gadomski and Archuleta County Attorney Todd Weaver have been appointed to the leadership group. Hinsdale County Commissioner

Kristie Borchers was also recently appointed to the leadership group. "Everybody's gonna have a say,"

Lynch said. He indicated that the group will likely start holding meetings this

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September 12, 2024

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participants will find themselves showered in a spectrum of colors as they make their way through the scenic route,

a cornerstone event of the annual ColorFest Weekend, a beloved tradition in Pagosa Springs that includes hot air balloon launches, live music and food festivals.

■ See Run on next page







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The Pagosa Bar: Karaoke, 7 p.m.

Friday

Coyote Moon Lounge: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 6

Meltdown on Main: Banjo Joe and Danielle, 5:30 p.m. Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m. The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Rock N Rebels, 5

Saturday

Covote Moon Lounge: Vincent Koehl, 6 p.m.

East Side Market: Open mic, 11 a.m.

Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m. The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.

Sunday

Coyote Moon Lounge: Daniel Lindsey, Shane Tuller & Jeff Hibshman, 5 p.m.

Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Jackson Mountain Ramblers, 5 p.m.

Monday

Coyote Moon Lounge: Dustin Burley, 5 p.m.

Mountain Pizza and Taproom: Dan Evans, 5:30 p.m.

Tuesday

The Springs Resort lodge atrium: Bluegrass Cadillac, 5 p.m.

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Stargazers look forward to most interesting astronomy autumn in 18.6 years

By Joan Mieritz

San Juan Stargazers

On the evening of Sept. 17 will be a partial eclipse of the harvest moon supermoon as it is rising in the sky.

Full moons are always impressive, but supermoons are slightly larger than average because the moon is at or close to perigee, which means it is the closest to Earth in its slightly elliptical orbit. Since it is closer, it appears larger and is called a supermoon.

The eclipse will be visible from $most\,of\,North\,America\,and\,all\,of\,South$ America. Europe, parts of Africa and Antarctica, and eastern Asia and Russia can also view it. It is unusual for it to be seen in so many places on our planet.

In Pagosa Springs, moonrise on Sept. 17, is at 7:11 p.m., so it is an easy time to be out looking at the partial

■ continued from previous page

Proceeds from the Aspen House Color Run/Walk will directly support a vital cause — raising funds to build Aspen House in Pagosa Springs. This new facility will provide essential housing and services for adults with developmental disabilities in Archuleta County.

By participating in this event, attendees are not only embracing a day of fun and fitness, but also contributing to a cause that will have a lasting, positive impact on the local community.

Registration is now open, and those interested in participating are encouraged to sign up early to secure their spot in this colorful celebration. The event URL is: https://runsignup. com/Race/CO/PagosaSprings/ColorFestColorRunWalk5K.

About Aspen House

Aspen House is a dedicated nonprofit organization committed to enhancing the lives of adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities through community support, advocacy and innovative programs. For more information on how to support Aspen House and help make a difference in the lives of individuals with developmental disabilities, please visit www.aspenhousepagosa.org.



September Stargazer 'meeting'

This is a once-in-18.6-year possibility. Our "meeting" is not one night, but will include three possible major lunar standstill events.

Event 1: On Sunday, Sept. 22, Dr. J. McKim Malville will be speaking at the Community United Methodist Church on Lewis Street at 7 p.m. He was the University of Colorado professor who discovered that what attracted the ancient people to Chimney Rock was the major lunar standstill or this once-every-18.6-year happening of the moon rising between the two pinnacles, Chimney Rock and Companion Rock.

Malville is retired and in his 80s,

■ See Stargazers on next page





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An Autumn Encore of the 19th Hole Concerts to raise granting funds for Archuleta County

By Rachel Rosenthal

Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado

The Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado is excited to announce a new concert fundraiser benefiting Archuleta County nonprofits.

Money raised from An Autumn Encore of the 19th Hole Concerts will sup-

port the Archuleta County Fund, which grants annually to local nonprofits.

The event will be held on Thursday, Sept. 19, at the Pagosa Springs Golf Club from 5 to 6:30 p.m. and will feature music from local musician Bob Hemenger.

The Archuleta County Fund is a quasi-endowed fund that provides an unsolicited grant annually which is matched by another fund through the Community Foundation to create a larger impact for the recipient of the grant. A local committee decides which organization will receive the funding.

This year, the fund is granting \$10,500 to the Pagosa Nordic Club. The Pagosa Nordic Club plans to use the funding to expand their Youth Nordic Ski Program for middle and high school students. Purchasing clas-

■ See Encore on next page

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Stargazers

■ continued from previous page

so he may not be coming to Pagosa to speak very often and it should be well worth taking the opportunity.

Event 2: On Monday, Sept. 23, people will gather at the Chimney Rock amphitheater with the gate opening at about 8:30 p.m. to see telescope viewing, a program with guest speakers and, much later, a telecast view of the moon rising between the pinnacles.

It is noteworthly that the ancient people had a better view of the rising moon because they built their Chacoan Great House for that reason. We have not rebuilt the ruins to three stories with a plaza over the great kiva and another bigger plaza to the south of the Great House. At this time, it only will be visible from the edge of a cliff, where a person from Griffith Observatory in climbing gear will be roped off to be safe while telecasting it to us.

Event 3: On Tuesday, Sept. 24, the same thing will happen, but the gate will open at 9:30 p.m. and the viewing of the moon will be later.

Please check the most recent infor-

mation in a SUN article or the website of the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association since the times and details may be changed.

Club activities

Our October monthly meeting will be on Oct. 3 at the regular time of 6 p.m. for a social hour and 7 p.m. program time.

We will have a member speaker, Tom Hanchet, who worked at Houston Mission Control for all of the Apollo missions. This past summer many people who worked on the Apollo programs gathered in Houston for the 50th anniversary reunion. NASA made a film of the highlights. He was a panel speaker. Hanchet will be sharing much with us.

Our November monthly meeting will be on Nov. 7 at the regular times. Our speaker, our very own professional astronomer, Dr. Andy Green, will be sharing his area of specialty: how galaxies are formed.

Our December monthly meeting will be on Dec. 5 at the regular times, with the program yet to be determined.

Space mysteries calendars available

We will be selling them for \$15 starting at the Malville lecture on Sept. 22. That is not to order them, but to have them in your hands to take home.

If the calendar is being given as a gift to a child, there is a special \$3 discount.

James Webb Space Telescope locates Earth-like exoplanet

It is 6.5 times larger than earth and has many Earth-like features. It is being intensely studied. I don't think that it can be better or closer-viewed, but everything possible will be done to find out more about this most Earth-like place to see if it has Earth-like inhabitants.

Information will most likely be released very slowly because in the past there was a huge fear that the discovery of alien life would send the world into a crazy mass panic.

How is that for an amazing discovery to think about because it will change life on our planet.

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Community supports Archuleta Food Pantry Network

Healthy Archuleta

On Saturday, Aug. 31, our community members generously supported the Food Pantry Network with the donation of nonperishable food items during Healthy Archuleta's food drive at City Market.

More than 1,100 food items were donated and later shared with the seven food pantries in Archuleta County.

Additionally, funds donated during the event will help support locally grown/produced food purchases for the Food Pantry Network.

If you did not get the chance to participate in the food drive, you can make a donation of nonperishable food items at the UPS Store during their business hours.

To learn more about the efforts of Healthy Archuleta, please visit our website, www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org, or send us an email at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

Archuleta Health Fair and Expo coming soon

The 2024 Archuleta Health Fair and Expo will take place on Oct. 19 at Pagosa Springs High School.

This event will feature low-cost labs, health screenings, health care providers, and health and wellness exhibitors. Registration information will be released in the coming weeks.

Healthy Archuleta is seeking volunteers to help with the event and welcomes businesses and individuals to help sponsor the health fair to help bring low-cost preventative health care services to our community members.

To learn more about the 2024 Archuleta Health Fair and Expo, volunteer and sponsorship opportunities, please visit our website, https://www.foodcoalition4archuleta.org/2024-archuleta-health-fairand-expo.html, or send us an email at fsfearchuleta@gmail.com.

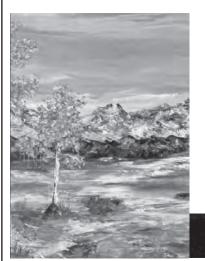




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Encore.

■ continued from previous page

sic cross-country skiing equipment to complement their existing skate-ski equipment will allow students to experience both disciplines of crosscountry skiing and support healthy lifestyles for the youth of Archuleta County.

"The Pagosa Nordic Club is honored to be selected to receive this grant from the Community Foundation's Archuleta County Fund," said James Dickhoff, president of the Pagosa Nordic Club. "The youth Nordic ski program exposes our kids to a fun, physical winter activity to promote fitness, friendships and an appreciation for being outside with nature."

"We are so excited to have this grant opportunity for the nonprofit community in Archuleta County," said Briggen Wrinkle, executive director of the Community Foundation. "The Autumn Encore is a perfect opportunity to raise money and educate the community about the fund while shining a spotlight on an outstanding

local nonprofit."

In addition to raising funds with ticket sales, a silent auction will allow concertgoers to bid on various gift cards and goods from local businesses, as well as a three-night stay at a Telluride condo. All proceeds go directly to the Archuleta County Fund, making it a more substantial granting source for local organizations. Be sure to bring your checkbooks and join in the fun.

All proceeds go directly to supporting nonprofit organizations because of generous sponsors.

In 2022, our inaugural Archuleta County Fund grant of \$10,000 went to Habitat for Humanity of Archuleta County to support its plan to build more affordable housing. In 2023, \$10,000 was granted to Wings Early Childhood Center to provide appliances for its building expansion.

The Community Foundation invests and manages contributions to our five counties. Our goal is to build, over time, substantial funds for the community.

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Photo courtesy Jacque Aragon

Around 50 participants, both amateurs and professionals, are expected to compete for cash prizes, trophies and culinary glory with their unique green chile recipes at the 16th annual Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic at the Mountain Chile Cha Cha on Sept. 28.

Registration open for 16th annual Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic

By Jacque Aragon
Special to The PREVIEW

Get Ready for the 18th annual Mountain Chile Cha Cha and 16th annual Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic, which will be held rain or shine.

As the crisp fall air descends upon Pagosa Springs, the aroma of freshly roasted green chiles signals the arrival of the annual harvest season.

Join us for a culinary celebration featuring the renowned Hatch variety from New Mexico and Big Jims from Grand Junction at the Patty Aragon Green Chile Classic.

This year, we expect to showcase around 50 talented participants, both amateurs and professionals, who will

compete for cash prizes, trophies and culinary glory with their unique green chile recipes.

From traditional to avant-garde, the cook-off promises a delectable range of green chile flavors and styles for everyone to enjoy. But that's just the beginning — the event is packed with activities for all ages, including a kids' tent, a Mexican beer garden, margarita tasting and a selection of food vendors.

We're introducing a \$10 entry fee to get into the event for the first time. Kids 12 and under are free. This nominal charge is a small price for an enhanced event experience with two of our favorite bands.

Enhancing the vibrant atmosphere of the event, the acclaimed

band Sangre Joven will ignite the stage with its infectious Latin rhythms. Additionally, prepare to be blown away by the electrifying performance of Str8 Shot, promising an unforgettable experience. Plus, you can take home locally grown, freshly roasted Hatch green chiles to create your culinary masterpieces.

Join us on Sept. 28 for a day of music, dance and delicious green chile dishes at the Town Park athletic field.

Whether you're a local or a visitor, this celebration of green chile and Pagosa Springs' Hispanic cultural heritage is an event to be noticed.

For more information and to register for the chile cook-off, visit ilovegreenchile.com.

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Photo courtesy Donna Muir

Kim Buscaglia, Meagan Zimpfer and Donna Muir have formed Team Under the Sea to raise critical funds for Rise Above Violence at this year's Runway for Rise event on Oct. 5.



Tickets selling fast for Runway for Rise

By Dee McPeek

Rise Above Violence

A few tickets are still left for the Oct. 5 Runway for Rise fundraiser benefiting Rise Above Violence.

A waitlist will be available for signup to fill last-minute cancellations.

Can't attend in person? You can still have a huge impact by voting for your favorite teams online. Your dollars will move teams closer to winning the Pagosa Prada Award while providing critical support for domestic violence survivors.

Just go to riseaboveviolence.org to snag those remaining tickets and vote with your dollars for as many teams as you like.

Donna Muir, returning from a team last year, and her teammates of Under the Sea understand firsthand the value of Rise Above Violence programs.

They have said, "Recently, someone close to us was helped by Rise. We were amazed by all the kindness, resources and other ways Rise helped. Runway for Rise is a great, fun way to get involved, give back to the organization and bring awareness to our community of all they do."

This team hopes to raise the most money and be awarded the Pagosa Prada Award for 2024.

Each member of the winning team will receive a stunning one-of-a-

kind, handmade leather bag created by Lvonne Wilson. Even with her successful leather business and participation as a committee member for this event, she has taken time to produce a beautiful award that winning team members will be proud to take home.

Generous sponsors have covered the costs of this event. Your dollars will be used to help survivors of domestic and sexual violence seeking criminal or civil legal assistance. The legal system can be overwhelming and confusing. Rise helps navigate these systems so survivors better understand the processes that can improve their and their children's safety. From protection order assistance to legal representation, Rise advocates can help, and your donations make that possible.

Join us in this effort. Each vote is \$1 but for fun we have hidden the donations for each team on the website. Rest assured the competition is fierce and teams are all very close. Dollars raised the night of the event will complete the team totals and the big reveal of the winner will be done at the end of the night. Have a favorite team or teams? You better go vote for them right now at riseaboveviolence.org.

Questions? Contact Event Coordinator Annie Gian at annie@ riseaboveviolence.org. Thank you for adding the fun to this fundraiser.

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for location in the box indicated.

They can also scan these QR codes to register:







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Community helps Our Community Eats move to new home

By Katherine Solbert

Our Community Eats Pantry

I am in awe and full of respect for the residents of this town. Our Community Eats (OCE) had a monumental move on its hands to get the pantry relocated from the old Sears building into the recently purchased Tennyson **Building Event Center.**

Many people from all walks of life came to support the move. The building was purchased for OCE from a very generous donor. OCE finalized the sale of the building Aug. 1. A local design company graciously drafted the architectural plans as a donation in record time, allowing permits to be filed.

Several men from a local church came and helped my husband do the demo work to create warehouse space. Many local business donated supplies for this project.

A husband-and-wife team in their late 70s built our front desk out of repurposed materials from the demo of the building. A tremendous amount of work was done quickly. When the building was ready for the pantry to start moving over, we encountered

an obstacle locating a truck with a lift gate.

Colorado Care and Share mobilized a driver and semi truck to move many pallets of food to the new location. This alone was a huge miracle of God.

Then came tearing apart the pantry shelving and moving the actual pantry with its 17 refrigerators and freezer units. The high school football team came and moved it all. A local real estate company loaned us a moving

Several folks showed up with trailers to help. Many people reassembled the pantry and restocked shelves. Even Mary Miller, who is 92 years old, stocked shelves for over five hours. The help didn't stop there. Lindy, 74 years of age, cleaned, scrubbed and buffed floors for five days to ensure our security deposit would be refunded on the previous rental location.

The county permit office instructed us on what is required for a temporary use permits. The fire department jumped through major hoops to get the fire inspection and final reports turned in to the permit office. We all cheered at this effort.

Two local banks donated funds to

help with a portion of the cost of our new sign. Never in my life have I seen so many folks in all aspects of a town pull together like this to assist a food pantry into its permanent location and get reopened.

People come to Pagosa and see our beautiful mountains and lovely town. But the core of this town, however, are people with huge, caring hearts. This community wants to make sure all residents have enough to eat. Through such extraordinary efforts, the pantry was closed one business day and was fully up and running the next business day. God has His eye on Pagosa and all are remembered. I am so proud of this community, and I am humbled and honored to be a part of it. Together we can do great things.

If anyone needs help with groceries, we are open Monday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Wednesday 4 to 6 p.m., Thursday 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Friday 10 a.m. to noon. Our location is 197 Navajo Trails Drive.

You can also visit our website at www.ourcommunityeats.com for more information about us.





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Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs auctioning incredible experiences online

By Donna Mosher

Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs

The Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs' online charity auction is your chance to get some incredible experiential items while making a meaningful difference in our community.

Don't miss your chance to bid on items like the Ultimate Top Gun Flight Experience, a Colorado Front Range Adventure Getaway, Sporting Clay Lessons, a Sip the Magic of Tuscany package and more.

Not only will winning bidders walk away with something special, but donations will support Rotary's "Service Above Self" initiatives. It's a win-win: You get to treat yourself and help your community at the

The auction is part of the club's ninth annual Jewels and Jeans Barn Dance on Oct. 12 at the Archuleta County Extension Building. But you don't have to attend the dance to take part. This online-only auction is everyone's chance to support Rotary's largest fundraiser of the year.

The online auction is now live. It closes at midnight on Oct. 11. Visit https://tinyurl.com/2xymm26t to browse and bid on items offered exclusively online.

There will also be a silent auction at the event with additional items up

Proceeds from the 2023 Barn Dance helped the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs give \$56,000 to

support key projects, including Rotary's Dictionary Project, the Pagosa Outreach Connection, scholarships for local graduates, the Rotary Youth Exchange and community grants.

These efforts exemplify our commitment to Rotary's values of "Service Above Self" and the "Four-Way Test," which ensures that our actions are truthful, fair, build goodwill and are beneficial to all.

Barn dance details

Get ready to kick up your heels at the Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs' ninth annual Jewels and Jeans Barn Dance. Join us on Oct. 12 from 7 to 10 p.m. at the Archuleta County Extension building. The doors will open at

Dance the night away to the lively tunes of the Jackson Mountain Ramblers, who will be playing your favorites - whether you're into twostepping, line dancing, waltzing or swinging the night away, there will be something for everyone.

Tickets are \$30 per person in advance and \$35 at the door. Don't forget to grab a food ticket for just \$15, which includes a hearty chuckwagon dinner to keep you fueled for the night. Tickets are available at the Chamber of Commerce, Exit Realty Home and Ranch, or directly from your favorite Rotary Club of Pagosa Springs member.

This event always sells out, so be sure to get your tickets early.

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Bestselling author Anne Hillerman here for four special events

By Carole Howard

PREVIEW Columnist, and the library staff

We are proud to host New York Times bestselling author Anne Hillerman next weekend for four special events, one free and three set up as fundraisers by the library foundation for our campaign to renovate and expand your library.

Hillerman is the author of multiple bestselling mysteries that continue the hugely popular Navajo detective series originated by her father, Tony Hillerman.

- Friday, Sept. 13, from 7 to 9 p.m. is a movie event at the library exclusively for Friends of the Library. Tickets are \$30 advance or \$35 at the door and include wine or beer and light snacks. If you're not a Friend, here's a perfect excuse to join.
- Saturday, Sept. 14, from 9 to 11 a.m. is a writer's workshop at the library. The cost is \$25.
- Also Saturday, from 12:30 to 1:15 p.m., is a free meet and greet with the author at the library.
- Also Saturday, from 6 to 8:30 p.m., is a fireside chat with the author at the Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse hosted by former NPR journalist Rick Holter with a cash bar and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$50 in advance and \$55 at the door.

Anne Hillerman lives in New Mexico. She has continued her father's series of Joe Leaphorn-Jim Chee novels following his death, adding officer Bernadette Manuelito as a full partner in solving the crimes. All nine of her books are available at your library for your reading pleasure.

Tickets for the three fundraising events can be purchased at the library or online at pagosalibrary.org.

Online author talks

Our highly popular free online author talks continue with three opportunities in September for you to interact with New York Times bestselling authors and ask questions.

For details and to register, go to https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming.

On Sept. 18 at noon, Kate Klemp, Ph.D., co-author of "Start Here: Master the Lifelong Skill of Wellbeing," will discuss "An Expansive Mind in a Distracted World."

On Sept. 21 at 5 p.m., we'll experience "A Deep Dive in Character Development" with novelist Liane Moriarity, author of "Big Little Lies," "The Husband's Secret" and "Apples Never Fall."

Fairy Tale Theatre tomorrow

All ages are invited to a free session to read fairy tales and act out your favorite characters on Friday, Sept. 13 from 2 to 3:30 p.m.

Chess Club Saturday

Learn how to play chess with free

Library News

quick lessons and game time to practice your skills on Saturday, Sept. 14, from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. All ages and abilities are welcome.

Adult knitting Saturday

Join new and experienced knitters Saturday, Sept. 14, for our free Knitters Circle from 1 to 3 p.m. It is aimed at anyone over the age of 18 who would like to knit together or get some help if you are stuck on your project.

Knitting and crochet lessons

Learn to knit or crochet on Monday, Sept. 16, at our free gathering from 2 to 3:15 p.m. for ages 8 and up. Supplies will be provided.

Music fun Monday

Pagosa Unplugged is free from 4 to 6 p.m. Monday, Sept. 16, for amateur musicians who would like a safe, supportive, non-bar setting to play, sing or both with other people. For information, contact Susan at (970) 946-3396.

Adult DIY next Tuesday

At the free in-person adult DIY next Tuesday, Sept. 17, from 1 to 2:30 p.m., we will enjoy cross-stitch. Learn a pattern that you can take home and work on to build your needlecraft skills. Registration is required.

Spanish conversation

Practice your Spanish in a free group setting on Tuesday, Sept. 17, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. There is no minimum skill level needed.

Note this group now meets twice a month, on the first and third Tuesdays.

Therapy dog visit

Next Wednesday, Sept. 18, from 11 to 11:45 a.m., all ages are invited to a free visit with a certified therapy dog. The visits will be limited to 10-15 minutes — just the right amount of time to pet the dog, read to the dog or just say "Hi."

Family storytime

Wednesdays from 10 to 11 a.m., join a free educational hour of reading, singing and free play to build early literacy skills.

Teen/tween activity

Join us in the teen area every Wednesday after school from 4 to 4:30 p.m. this month for a fun craft or challenge. Activities will range from taste tests to art challenges to minute-to-win-it-style games.

Writers Guild

Every Thursday from 9 to 11 a.m., the Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers looking for opportunities, support, resources and camaraderie with other writers at this free gathering.

The guild has published a new anthology, "Tales from the San Juans," which the members say includes "life musings, creative short fiction, retrospectives, poetry, novellas and short observations — all inspired by the beauty that surrounds us."

The book is available at the library, with net proceeds going to the library's building campaign.

ESL classes

Free in-person evening classes take place on Tuesdays and Thursdays, with 4 to 5 p.m. reserved for beginners, 5 to 6 p.m. for intermediate and 6 to 7 p.m. for advanced students. Please help us share the word about these classes.

Tech Time

Free in-person slots are available

■ See Library on next page



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Seasonal food demonstration planned

By Rose Chavez

PREVIEW Columnist

With the peak of the growing season at hand. Archuleta Seniors Inc. (ASI) is excited to welcome Chris and Rue Fredericks, and ASI Executive Director Rose Chavez, public health nutritionist, for a meet and greet with the community on Thursday, Sept. 19, at 1:30 p.m. in the Pagosa Senior Center dining hall.

We will meet to discuss the free Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program for older adults that is going on this growing season and to enjoy a seasonal food demonstration.

The farmers will give a brief presentation about this summer's free CSA program for older adults and their philosophy in growing food for the community. They have also offered to provide some culinary inspiration and seasonal food preparation suggestions for many of the

Senior News

items they grow.

Come prepared to enjoy an informative food demonstration and seasonal tasting of this low-carbon footprint, nutrient-dense, amazing food grown right here in Archuleta County.

Through a unique partnership with Nourish Colorado and Terra Walk Farm, Archuleta Seniors has been able to provide free weekly organic vegetable boxes to more than 30 older adults and their families in Archuleta County for the 16-week growing season during 2024.

Now we'd like the whole community to get an opportunity to

learn about this program and meet the community members involved. Come celebrate the harvest with us, thank a farmer and be in the com-

For more information, contact ASI at (970) 264-2167.

Resources for those with vision loss or low vision

Are you losing some vision? Are you legally blind? Do you want to build your skills? Would you like to meet others who are also dealing with vision loss?

Join the Colorado Center for the Blind at the Durango Senior Center in Durango, 2424 Main Ave., Tuesday, Sept. 24, from 10 a.m. to noon. There will be an additional afternoon session from 1 to 4 p.m., both at the Durango Senior Center.

You will learn about several resources that will be invaluable to

■ See Senior on next page

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■ continued from previous page

from 10 a.m. to noon Tuesdays and 2 to 4 p.m. Thursdays. Judy helps you with basic questions relating to computers, smartphones and tablets, and also provides assistance in accessing the library's online resources.

No appointment is needed for these drop-in sessions, but please bring your device's charger and passwords with you.

Pagosa Adult Learning Services (PALS)

Join Mark or Sally for free PALS sessions Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5:30 to 8 p.m. to help with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and

Downloadable books

CloudLibrary has a wide variety of downloadable e-books and audiobooks for all ages. To access this free digital collection, download the cloudLibrary app, answer a few simple questions, select AspenCat Union Catalog for the name of your library, then enter your library card number and four-digit PIN. Library staff are happy to help you set up your device if you need assistance.

Mysteries, suspense and thrillers

"Pumpkin Spice Puppy" by Laurien Berenson is a Melanie Travis Canine mystery. "Backwater Justice" by Fern Michaels is a Sisterhood mystery. "Spirit Crossing" by William Kent Krueger is a Cork O'Connor mystery that follows the death of a young Ojibwe woman. "Shadow State" by M.P. Woodward features Tom Clancy's Jack Ryan Jr. hero.

Other novels

"By Any Other Name" by Jodi

Picoult is a story of two women centuries apart forced to write under men's names. "Joy" by Danielle Steel features a woman dealing with a husband changed by the horrors of the Afghanistan war. "Beyond Ivy Walls" by Rachel Fordham tells of two people exiled by their family long ago. "The Legacy" by Carol Ashby is book three in the Light in the Empire fantasy series. "Where Trees Touch the Sky" by Karen Barnett follows the life of a woman determined to save the California redwoods.

Nonfiction

"Becoming Little Shell: Returning Home to the Landless Indians of Montana" by Chris La Tray is a memoir of a Metis storyteller searching for his roots. "The Ink War: Romanticism versus Modernity in Chess" by chess international master Willy Hendriks explores the rivalry of two of the world's strongest chess players in the late 19th century and their contributions to the game.

Donation guidelines

When we are open, material donations are accepted for the Friends of the Library at the front desk — not down the outside returns slot at the library or the drop box at City Market, please.

Guidelines for donations: Yes to popular fiction books published in 2013 or later, nonfiction books published 2018 or later, and children's and young adult books — all in excellent condition, please. No to CDs, DVDs, Blu-ray, VHS or cassette tapes; textbooks, outdated travel books or reference books because they do not sell. No more than two boxes at a time because of space constraints.

Quotable quote

"I always tell my kids that chal-

lenges are the poetry of your life. You wouldn't know hot if you didn't know cold. You wouldn't have appreciation for the good times without going through the hard times." — Pamela Anderson, Canadian-American actress, model and media personality.

Website

For more information on library books, services and programs — and to reserve books, e-books, books on CD and DVDs from the comfort of your home — please visit our website at https://pagosalibrary.org.

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12 - 1 PM

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TICKET INFO: www.swcommunityfoundation.org bingo twice a month on Friday after-

Bingo will be on Sept. 20, Sept. 27,

Participation is free, and we ask

you bring yourself and a friend for joy-

ful fellowship. We will provide prizes

from local businesses for all winners,

up. All ages are welcome, but we ask

those 18 and younger to come with

No RSVP is required; just show

For more information, contact us

Join Judith Newman at the Pagosa

Senior Center (451 Hot Springs Blvd.)

the second Wednesday of each

month — Sept. 11 and Oct. 9 — to

learn and/or refresh your Emotional

Freedom Technique, also known as

tapping skills, to support yourself

with self-care, relief from anxiety and

last 45 minutes to an hour. Please

bring a friend or come alone. All are

■ See Senior on next page

All classes start at 10 a.m. and

and snacks will also be provided.

noons from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

Oct. 4 and Oct. 11.

an adult chaperone.

community support.

welcome.

Emotional Freedom

Technique sessions

at (970) 264-2167.

Seniors

■ continued from previous page

you. They will provide hands-on learning experiences: techniques for independent travel, organizing your home, using your smartphone, reading books and much more. In the afternoon from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m., they will provide individualized training and consultative services.

This free resource and training workshop is for low-vision and blind people of all ages, their families and friends. If you are unable to travel to Durango from Pagosa, ASI staff will have a resource sheet available shortly after the event and details to provide referrals.

This is sponsored by the National Federations of the Blind of Colorado and the Colorado Center for

Fresh Conversations

Are you interested in learning more about your blood and how to keep it healthy? Please join us for the Fresh Conversations nutrition education gathering this month and learn about anemia - signs and symptoms, and how to avoid it. You'll also learn about the benefits of flexibility and stretching in your daily life.

We will meet Friday, Sept. 13, at 1:15 p.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center dining hall, 415 Hot Springs Blvd., in the back of the Ross Aragon Community Center.

Don't forget that we always have a seasonal recipe tasting and movement to get you feeling limber and uplifted.

Healthy aging and yoga therapy classes series

The Healthy Aging Yoga Series continues to be offered in person at the Pagosa Senior Center on Mondays from 2:30 to 3:30 p.m.

It is structured by therapeutic yoga tools and techniques with chair movement, standing stretches, gentle postures, breathing practices and reflective meditative moments.

Monthly themes for the series include topics such as sustainable strength for healthy aging individuals, brain health, heart and cardiovascular health, mental and emotional wellbeing, community connections, and stress management, to name a few.

Classes will be educational for participants to utilize practices in daily life and are meant for all levels of experience with yoga.

Mats and chairs will be provided at the Senior Center. Some blocks and Therabands are available, too. The addition of yoga props is always welcomed.

We request that individuals new to the series arrive early for intake inquiries and to please communicate with our new instructor, Kimberly Anderson, directly by email at zinkgraf@gmail.com.

Stretching and mobility class

Community members are invited to attend new free weekly classes every Tuesday this fall and winter from 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. at the Pagosa Senior Center (located at 451 Hot Springs Blvd., in the back of the Ross Aragon Community Center).

The stretching and mobility classes for older adults (age 55 and up) are designed to help build balance in the body through functional exercises that aim to improve mobility and flexibility.

Participants will have the opportunity to enjoy a variety of techniques that can help enhance overall movement efficiency.

Though not necessary, a mat is recommended for this class.

The program is instructed by local ballet dance instructor Dee Pitchon, who will provide modifications to ensure the safety and effectiveness of the exercises.

The Senior Center will be hosting



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Re-elect Warren Brown

County Commissioner District 1

As your District 1 County Commissioner, I have focused on improving our quality of life through limiting risks we face in seeking out basic services, improving our ability to secure food for ourselves and supporting educational funding opportunities to teach our school age

children and provide new skills and improved skill sets to many in our workforce.

I understand that relationships matter! For the last four years I have consistently and continually reached out to work with you, our community members, our local and regional elected officials, our State Senators, our House of Representative members and our Congressional Representatives and United States Senators without regard to political affiliation so we can serve you to the best of our collective ability.

As a former small business owner, I am all too familiar with the daily challenges our business community faces, to include employee hiring and retention and paying competitive wages and benefits. As someone who has purchased a home in our community, I understand many of the barriers faced by homebuyers. That is why championing attainable housing, whether it is through our Community Development Corporation or Habitat for Humanity just makes sense. Teamwork among public and private entities can make a dent in the housing

Lastly, I have worked tirelessly to keep every campaign promise I made to you. In doing so, it is my wish that my political legacy will have been to raise your expectations of what a county commissioner should be. I hope that we collectively demand that future commissioners commit to making this responsibility a full-time job and that we insist on having accountable commissioners who are genuinely interested in faithfully serving you the citizens of our wonderful county.

I am Warren Brown; it has been my honor serving you. I hope to continue to have this privilege, and I am asking you for your vote in the General Election, Tuesday November 5, 2024.



Facebook: Committee to Re-Elect Warren Brown • https://www.electwarrenbrown.com Instragram.com/electwarrenbrown • email: info@electwarrenbrown.com

Paid for by Committee to Re-Elect Warren Brown Archuleta County Commissioner District 1. Warren Brown Registered Agent.

Seniors

■ continued from previous page

T'ai Chi Chih

The Senior Center offers T'ai Chi Chih with accredited instructor Patti Popovich each Thursday from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. to support older adults who want to discover purpose and fulfillment in this transitional phase of life. Meet at the gazebo in Yamaguchi Park, 684 S. 5th St.

T'ai Chi Chih is not a martial art, but rather a tool for self-healing. Softness, flow and effortlessness are the guiding principles in this practice.

All classes will be free for older adults (age 60 and better) and will last approximately one hour in the dining hall.

No special clothing or equipment is required.

For more information, call (970) 264-2167.

Senior Conversations

Join us Mondays at 1:15 p.m. for a series of "Senior Conversations" with local Bill Salmansohn.

He will lead the group through mindfulness exercises and discussion of various topics pertaining to aging in Archuleta County. Explore and discover for yourself answers to your questions and concerns.

The meeting will be held in the Senior Center in the dining hall. Snacks will be provided.

Share lunch Monday through Friday

Join us at the Silver Fox's Den, aka the Community Cafe, in person for daily hot/cold meals Mondays through Thursdays at the Community Center between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. It is open to all. Pickup is available all week, including Fridays.

Our dining hall is open to all ages and welcomes you all with kindness and warmth. We provide hot/cold meals for anyone in the community interested in a nutritious and delicious

· Cabling and Bracing

meal. For those 60 or older we request a suggested donation of \$6, but no one will be turned away. There is a \$10.50 charge for guests under the age of 60.

Meals include a main course, side dish, fruit/dessert, garden salad plus beverage. Some popular menu items include Frito chili pie, pork tenderloin with harvest chutney, Singaporean pork ribs, vegetarian lasagna, Hawaiian shrimp with coconut rice and always a beautiful green salad. Many of our items are locally sourced and organic.

Our chef works with a team of local food professionals to hand-prepare your meal for dine-in service in our cozy dining room (with an amazing view of the San Juans) or for takeout (via our convenient drive-through). Our menu changes daily.

To reserve your meal for the day, please make your reservation via text or phone call to (970) 264-2167 by 9 a.m. weekdays.

Community Cafe menu

Thursday, Sept. 12 — Codfish Veracruz, roasted asparagus, garden salad, fruit, blueberry muffin and milk.

Friday, Sept. 13 — Pork posole, cabbage, radishes and onions, lime, tortilla, garden salad, fruit and milk.

Monday, Sept. 16 — Beef meatloaf, baby baked potatoes, garden salad, fruit, lemon cookies and milk.

Tuesday, Sept. 17 — Chicken tom kha soup, roasted bok choy, almond croissant, garden salad, vanilla yogurt, fruit and milk.

Wednesday, Sept. 18 — Tuna melt on sourdough, Parmesan-crusted zucchini, garden salad, fruit, brownie and milk.

Thursday, Sept. 19 — Singapore coffee pork ribs, vegetable fried rice, snow peas, garden salad, fruit, chai pudding and milk.

Friday, Sept. 20 — Butternut squash, sage and mushroom lasagna; wilted spinach and onions; garden salad; fruit; carrot cake; and milk.

FREE QUOTES

Grab-N-Go meals

Dine-in and Grab-N-Go meal reservations and cancellations are required. Please call or text by 9 a.m. the morning of the day you want to pick up a meal. A suggested donation of \$6 helps to sustain our program. For ages 59 and younger, the cost is \$10.50. No one will be turned away for their inability to donate. Please call or text us at (970) 264-2167 to make a reservation.

■ See Senior on next page

HUD Publisher's Notice

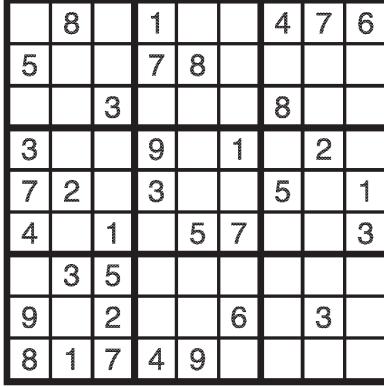


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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

SUDOKU



Fun By The Numbers

Like puzzles?
Then you'll love sudoku. This mind-bending puzzle will have you hooked from the moment you square off, so sharpen your pencil and put your sudoku savvy to the test!

Level: Beginner

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!



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Seniors

■ continued from previous page Meals on Wheels

We deliver fresh Meals on Wheels five days a week (and provide frozen Meals on Wheels for weekends) to homebound Archuleta County residents. Call or text us at (970)

Mobile food pantry service

Older adults needing a ride to a local food pantry should contact the MET to schedule a ride with its paratransit service. For more information, contact Lavonne at (970) 264-2250.

Text reservations

Don't forget that we offer a convenient texting service for you to communicate with us. Text us at (970) 264-2167. When texting, please include your name, phone number and the days you want a meal. If you are canceling a reservation, please include your name, phone number and the days you want to cancel.

Texting services are available for dine-in meal reservations, Grabn-Go meals and Meals on Wheels recipients.

COVID-19 test kits

The Senior Center will no longer be distributing free COVID-19 test

Please stop by the Archuleta County Public Health Department at 502 S. 8th St. These kits are available to anyone in the public that needs affordable access for health promotion and disease prevention.

Mahjong

Mahjong is a 19th century Chinese tile-based game that is commonly played with four players. Each player receives 13 tiles with a goal to make matching sets and pairs (like poker). To win, a player must form four sets and one pair.

Come to the Senior Center to learn or play every Tuesday at 1:15

Medicare call by appointment

For anyone who needs help enrolling and navigating Medicare plans, the San Juan Basin Area Agency on Aging helps with parts A, B and D. They can also help you with fraud concerns and troubleshooting any billing issues you may be having. By appointment only. Please call the Medicare line at (970) 264-0501, ext 2.

Bridge

The longest-played bridge game in Archuleta County takes place on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 1:15 p.m.

Bridge is a four-player card game with partners sitting opposite each other around a table. It is a tricktaking card game using a standard 52-card deck. Come alone or bring a partner.

Hand and foot card game

Whether you are new to hand and foot or interested in learning, please join us most Tuesdays at 1:15 at the Senior Center.

This card game involves four rounds of playing until the final round is reached — some two to three hours later. Plan to stay and meet some new friends or catch up with those you have missed over the last couple of years.

No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.



Board vacancies

The ASI Board of Directors has multiple vacant positions open. The terms are three years with an option to renew for an additional term.

Potential candidates should be at least 21 years of age or older and must have a passion for adult and aging services.



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MLS # 811817

This home is perfectly located on approximately an acre of land in the Pagosa Lakes area. Open the back door and a 700 sq ft deck will provide additional space for a BBQ grill, plenty of outdoor seating, and a new hot tub for your relaxation and enjoyment. 4 beds/2.5 baths with 2,350 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to: https://tinyurl.com/65Caballero



MLS # 813453

Beautiful end unit townhome in Whispering Pines! No neighbors directly behind you as this area has a picnic table, a gazebo and feels like an extension of your own backyard right off the lower patio. 2 beds/2.5 baths with 2,044 sq. ft.

> To tour this home go to: https://tinyurl.com/1135ParkAve



264-4462

MLS # 813551

2 Bed. 2 Bath. 2.073 sq foot house on 36.44 acres. Navajo River Ranch has 2 private entrances into the forest. This home has wonderful views of the San Juan Mountain Range and great decks. 2 tributaries come together to form a seasonal creek called Oil Well Creek on the property.

To tour this home go to: https://tinyurl.com/1001SoaringEagleCourt



MLS # 807337

.68 Acre, 1500 sq. ft. commercial building located in Cloman Industrial Park. There is enough property to build another building or make a large wrap around parking lot. There is a 3000 BYU gas heater and a 40 gallon hot water heater.





MLS # 813104

35.2 Acres with a guest house and set up for horses. The property comes with an extra workshop/garage, a growing dome, a round pen. 3 stall + barn and numerous out buildings. The main house is 5,141 sq. ft. and the guest house is 2,028 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to: https://tinyurl.com/2453RunningHorse



One owner 2nd home has 3.12 acres, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths. The master is on the ground floor, front deck and back porch are covered.



247 Davis Cup Drive, Unit 4258 \$355,000

MLS # 811750

Great condo with the primary bedroom on the main level and a second spacious bedroom on the second level. Updated kitchen with granite countertops and newer appliances. 2 beds/3 baths with 1,345 sq. ft.

To tour this home go to: https://tinyurl.com/247DavisCup

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Unitarian Universalists to begin new series of services

By De Anna L. Hoyle

Pagosa Unitarian Universalist Fellowship

The Pagosa Unitarian Universalist (UU) Fellowship introduces the start of a new series of services: "What the World Needs Now - Universalism in a Polarized Age."

In collaboration with the Foothills Unitarian Church of Fort Collins, we welcome all to hear from the professional ministry team at Foothills Unitarian through streamed sermons and worship elements as we explore the good news of Universalism.

The Sunday, Sept. 15, service, entitled "Them," by the Rev. Sean Neil-Barron, explores the how and why of resisting the constant pull toward tribalism and othering in our polarized age.

We are presenting this series as an antidote to election anxiety, and will explore the challenges of living into the Universalist belief that everyone is worthy of love, especially in a world filled with divisiveness.

The "What Our World Needs Now" series also highlights how irritation and outrage can overshadow our commitment to a broader, more inclusive love. It invites us to get

curious about these challenges we all face, and together build resilience and courage to widen the circle of love.

New offering

The Pagosa UU Fellowship is also announcing a new offering, "Going Deeper with Small Group Ministry," beginning Sunday, Sept. 22, from 11 a.m. to 12:30 pm.

This setting will offer an opportunity for deep contemplation and sharing of the themes presented during the previous Sunday worship. Stay tuned as future dates may be added as the series continues into October.

During these small group gatherings, we will continue the conversation and communion with one another as we explore with curiosity and wondering questions on the presented series "What the World Needs Now." "Exploring Fear and Its Influence" and "Universalism and the Challenge of 'Us vs. Them" are just a couple of the themes that will be explored.

These gatherings will be held at the fellowship, and you are invited to bring a sack lunch; beverages and sweets will be provided. De Anna Hoyle, community engagement coordinator and trained spiritual companion, along with lay leaders from the congregation, will facilitate.

We invite all interested to join us; attendance at the previous Sunday service not a requirement.

About the Pagosa UU Fellowship

Pagosa UU Fellowship in-person services are normally on the first and third Sundays of the month.

Join us in Unit B-15 of the Greenbriar Plaza, 301 N. Pagosa Blvd., on the north side facing Pagosa Peak. Online services continue through Zoom using the following meeting link: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8991941305.

In-person meditation practice is held most second and fourth Sundays at 9 a.m. If you are interested in meditation Sundays, we encourage you to email PagosaUUF@gmail.com so you can be added to the contact list. This way you will be informed of cancellations and other notices.

We welcome diversity and invite everyone to share in our faith community. For additional information about the fellowship, please see www.pagosauu.org.





New & Used End-of-Season

Closeouts

National Back to Church Sunday set for Sept. 15

By Shanna Robb PREVIEW Columnist

Did you know that there is a National Cat Herder Day, National Squirrel Appreciation Day and an International Bacon Day? Yes, these are among an onslaught of national and international days that are designated to appreciate something or someone of interest.

Cats, squirrels and bacon are all awesome, but what if you could participate in a National Day that appreciates someone who isn't just a one-day wonder? What if your participation could ignite a positive chain reaction where every day is appreciated?

The National Back to Church Sunday movement is just that. Celebrated

A Matter of Faith

on the third Sunday of September, which will be Sept. 15 this year, this single-day event aims to invite communities to attend church.

Those who have strayed from regular church attendance or are still looking for a faith community are encouraged to take a leap of faith and attend church on Sept. 15. Those who are already actively participating in a church are asked, "Whom are you called to invite home?"

■ See Faith on next page

Ski & Winter Gear Sale! Saturday & Sunday Sept. 28th & 29th

Saturday & Sunday Sept. 28th & 29th 10 a.m.-2 p.m.



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Photo courtesy Shanna Robb

Prayer quilts created by the Pagosa Catholic Quilt Ministry are blessed during the Sept. 5 daily Mass by Father Francis Ejiro Ekere, a visiting Catholic priest from Nigeria. To date, 35 prayer quilts have been gifted.

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Faith

■ continued from previous page

There are many excuses for displacing the priority of going to church. The movement, however, puts responsibility on the shoulders of parishioners by revealing that, while "only 5% of Americans have received a personal invitation to church, 80% of Americans would be open to attending church if invited by a friend."

This sobering accountability has created a renewed effort among many parishes to invite people back to church. For instance, the Catholic Church in America is encouraging their parishioners to "Walk With One" as part of their "Invite One Back Initiative."

More than ever, people need a faith community that gives them true purpose and identity built upon God's unwavering love, mercy and forgiveness. Attending church regularly allows individuals to be-

come part of a community based on their shared identity as children of God.

Scripture emphasizes the importance of gathering as the people of God in Matthew 18:20, "For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them."

We are all invited to participate, but many are waiting to be invited.

This is your invitation to join Christians across America on Sept. 15 for the National Back to Church Sunday. We are God's priority, so let us make Him our priority moving forward.

Come. Participate. Invite. Appreciate. It is much easier than herding cats.

This column may include both fiction and nonfiction, and views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN. Submissions can be sent to editor@pagosasun.com.



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Bird of the Week



Photo courtesy Charles Martinez

This week's Bird of the Week, compliments of the Weminuche Audubon Society and Audubon Rockies, is the solitary sandpiper.

These sandpipers are rule breakers that show up in our area during their spring and fall migrations between far northern breeding grounds and winter ranges in South and Central America. Several unusual behaviors set these sandpipers apart from their relatives in the Tringa genus of birds.

As their name suggests, these birds migrate singly, or at most travel in small numbers, rather than in the larger flocks typical of sandpipers. Solitary sandpipers are aggressive and territorial year-round. They hunt for insects, crustaceans, mollusks and amphibians by sight at the surface of shallow water or on muddy shores.

They do not favor the coastal habitats of other sandpipers and instead inhabit freshwater wetlands and wooded swamps, not places where you would usually look for a shorebird. In migration they can show up in almost any puddle of water, from the city to a higher-elevation forest.

In a behavior rare among sandpipers, solitary sandpipers lay their eggs in trees rather than on the ground, using the old nests of songbirds including robins, waxwings and Canada jays. They are one of only two sandpiper species known to do so.

Most of these sandpipers nest in muskeg bogs in the northern boreal forests of Canada. In these wet environments, dead plants decompose slowly into a spongy layer of peat and trees are stunted.

These inhospitable and inaccessible breeding habitats have made the solitary sandpiper one of the least-known shorebirds. Young birds apparently jump out of the nest soon after hatching and begin feeding on their own. Little more is known about this stage of their development.

These small, slender shorebirds are identified by neat white spots on the back; a prominent white eye-ring; and long, olive-colored legs. They and many other colorful birds have been seen in the Vista pond area recently.

For information on events, visit www.weminucheaudubon.org and www.facebook.com/weminucheaudubon/.



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CAN MORE SUN EXPOSURE LEAD TO LOWER CARDIOVASCULAR DISEASE RISK?

When it comes to protecting, managing, and regaining overall health, Vitamin D has proven to be most effective. The naturally occurring, sun-derived Vitamin D provides proactive defense against most common lifestyle diseases, including cardiovascular disease. The effect of vitamin D on your heart is the basis of today's research excerpt. The farther north you live, the more likely you will suffer a heart attack. That curious observation led to the suspicion that vitamin D may somehow be related to the development of heart disease. It suggests that sunlight exposure may somehow provide a protective effect, perhaps through vitamin D.



The notable exception to this pattern is the Eskimos, who eat large quantities of oily fish, a rich source of vitamin D and omega-3 fatty acids.

An early hint that deficiency of vitamin D might be behind heart disease came from a New Zealand study of 179 people presenting with heart attacks. Heart attack sufferers proved to have lower vitamin D blood levels (25-hydroxyvitamin D) compared to people without heart attacks.

A corroborating observation emerged from analysis of the enormous database of 259,891 heart attacks maintained by the National Registry of Myocardial Infarction. In this nationwide tabulation, heart attacks surged by 53% during sun-deprived winter months compared to summer.

Further corroboration came from observations in sub-tropical climates, where intense sun shines year-round and seasonal variation in heart attack rates doesn't occur. Unlike the large ranges in cold or hot weather found in temperate regions, the warm climate of a subtropical region does not affect the frequency of heart attacks.

If vitamin D is indeed related to heart disease risk, then we would also expect to see fewer heart attacks in sunny climates and more heart attacks in cooler climates. Indeed, an exhaustive study performed by Dr. David Grimes and colleagues at the Blackburn Royal Infirmary in England demonstrated a consistent worldwide relationship between sunlight exposure and heart disease: the farther north in latitude, the more heart attacks occurred.

Dr. Grimes and others have suggested that the vitamin D activated by sunlight is behind the reduced risk of heart disease.

Source: "Vitamin D's Crucial Role in Cardiovascular Protection." By William Davis.

Bonus Tip: Visit http://www.AmazingFacts.org for spiritual refreshment every week!

"Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth." 3 John 1:2

A public service from your Adventist friends & neighbors at Pagosa Springs Seventh Day Adventist Church.

Disclaimer: This and all our Nature's Remedies are for health information purposes only. The Seventh Day Adventist Church is not responsible for results.



A PROTESTANT DENOMINATION

40 Oren Road • 970-731-1005

Preview Calendar

All events listed in The PREVIEW Calendar are free of charge unless otherwise noted.

Thursday, Sept. 12

Outdoor Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members will provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30
a.m., Chimney Rock National
Monument. This guided tour takes
visitors 1/3 mile up the Great
Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for
ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages
5-12. Registration is required 12
hours in advance via rec.gov. For
more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

T'ai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30, Yamaguchi Park. Free for those 60 and better. Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to com-

puters, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are

free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

PALS Adult Education. 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Friday, Sept. 13

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 8-10:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour spotlights topics aimed at interpreting the history and significance of Chimney Rock and the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Indoor Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

Outdoor Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great

■ See Calendar on next page

The Weekly Crossword

14

33

36

41

54

57

Crossword by Margie E. Burke

15

18

ACROSS

- 1 Sonata finale
- 5 Laundry problem
- 10 Chick's chirp
- 14 Beat anagram
- 15 Around
- 16 Wheel connector
- 17 Get checkmated
- 18 Hertz rival
- 20 Morris Albert hit
- 22 Moon feature
- 23 Emulates the sun
- 24 Hens' home
- 25 Jackpot numbers
- 27 Like minor defects
- 31 Wide-eyed
- **32** Applegate, for one
- 33 Pot top
- 34 Rap sheet item
- 35 Do damage to
- **36** Battery type
- **39** 1992 film, "___ of a Woman"
- **41** Out of the ordinary
- **42** Folds under pressure
- **43** Preside at tea
- 44 Genetic double
- **45** Stocks and such
- **48** Skin cream ingredient
- **51** Spreading of a pathogen
- 53 Vast
- 54 Word-of-mouth
- **55** Pontificate
- 56 Geom. Figure
- 57 Lock openers
- **58** Supermarket section
- **59** ___ bien

DOWN

- 1 Ranch newborn
- 2 Slender reed

3 Rightfully

43

- 4 Artist's studio
- 5 Spectacles
- 6 Tiny bell sounds7 Liberal pursuits
- 8 Rink surface
- 9 Deep stupor
- 10 Balcony barrier
- 11 Off-ramp
- 12 Apart from this
- 13 Look narrowly
- **19** High-school dances
- 21 Does not exist
- 24 Shade of pink
- 25 Spicy dip
- 26 "Silas Marner" author
- 27 Put on ice
- 28 Track official
- 29 Mindless
- 20 Cura mas
- **30** Supermarket sights
- 32 Unclouded
- 34 Get used to
- 37 Kind of court

- 38 Mob scenes
- 39 Loafer, e.g.

48

52

55

58

- 40 Score a spare
- **42** Finalizes, like a deal
- **44** "J. Edgar" director
- **45** Run ___ (go crazy)
- 46 Bone-dry

53

56

59

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47 Stick around

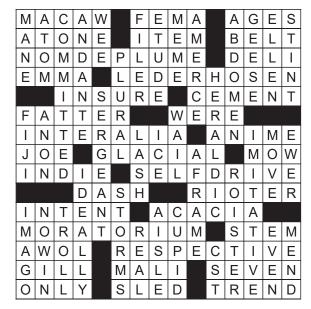
35

49

50

- **48** Where Bhutan is
- **49** Wedding shower?
- 50 Plays a part
- **52** Big brute

Answers to Previous Crossword:



SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center announces upcoming events

By Shayla McClure

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center

Friday, Sept. 13, will feature free lectures on pet-related subjects from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m for the "Blessing of the Animals" at the SpiritFire Center at Pagosa Lodge. Text or call for the list of subjects, (970) 510-0309.

On Saturday, Sept. 14, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. will be the "Blessing of the Animals" fundraiser. Tickets are \$10. There will be lectures, presentations, pipe ceremony blessing with Grandmother Fire Eagle.

Bring pictures of your pets for a beautiful blessing and honoring of your animal family.

Upcoming events

Sept. 13-14: Blessing of the Animals with Julie Loar, Grandmother Fire Eagle and Shayla White Eagle. Tickets are on sale now for \$10. Contact (970) 510-0309.

Sept. 17, 6 p.m.: Illuminations lecture series, "Get Your Genius Out of the Box to Create a Successful and Soulful Business" with Dr. Elaine Harding, spiritual feng shui teacher, speaker, and author. A love donation will be accepted.

Sept. 24, 6 p.m.: Illuminations lec-

tal Factors Affect Your Health and How to De-Tox" with Dave Carpenter, author, naturopathic doctor and veterans supporter. A love donation will be accepted.

ture series, "How Toxic Environmen-

About us

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center is a 501(c)(3). We are an allinclusive community honoring all lifestyles, cultures and religious paths to the Divine. We are the "Good Vibe Tribe" who practices Science of Mind principles of positive thinking.

The vision of SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center is to empower each participating member to become their "best self." Our mission is to create a world that works for everyone through self empowerment and awareness of the creator's divinity.

We welcome local talents to share gifts, aptitudes, and knowledge.

SpiritFire Inspirational Living Center events are held at 3505 W. U.S. 160, on the second floor of the Pagosa Lodge (elevator available). Obtain information by joining us; emailing pagosacommunitynewthought@gmail.com; mailing P.O. Box 1052, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147; or calling (970) 510-0309.

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Community Coffee. 1-3 p.m., TARA Historical Society Community Center. For more information, email TARACommunityCenter101@ amail.com.

Fresh Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. This month's topic

Fairy Tale Theatre. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Read fairy tales and act out your favorite characters.

A Weekend with Anne Hillerman: Friends of the Library Movie Night. 7-9 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the author to watch and discuss the first episode of "Dark Winds," the AMC series based on several Tony Hillerman books. Anne Hillerman is an executive producer for the show. Tickets are \$30 advance or \$35 at the door and include wine/beer and light snacks. Join the Friends of the Library at Pagosalibrary.org. Tickets can be purchased at the library or pagosalibrary.org.

Saturday, Sept. 14

Geology Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores local geology and its relationship to the daily lives of the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Free Community Pancake Breakfast. 8-11 a.m., Stevens Field Airport, 777 Piedra Road. Presented by Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County.

A Weekend with Anne Hillerman: Writers' Workshop. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Explore the writing craft with Anne Hillerman and husband Dave Tedlock, who has taught writing at Roger Williams University, Iowa State University, and the Harvard Business School. The workshop is limited to 20 participants. Tickets are \$25; a combo ticket, \$65, includes admission to the Fireside Chat. Tickets can be purchased at the library or pagosalibrary.org.

GriefShare. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program to assist with the healing process, regardless of how long it is since your loved one passed. For more information, call Marie Rasco at (970) 946-9379 or Centerpoint Church at (970) 731-2205. You can also register and learn more at www. griefshare.org.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimnevrockco.org.

Weekend with Anne Hillerman: Ruby's Meet and Greet with Anne Hillerman. 12:30-1:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Meet the best-selling mystery author and purchase a signed book. Anne Hillerman's thought-provoking mysteries bring to life the terrain, people and lore of the American Southwest and Four Corners region. This event is free.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Volleyball. 1 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Montezuma-Cortez.

DivorceCare/DivorceCare for Kids.

4-5:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program that provides a safe environment for people who have gone through, are going through or are considering divorce and features experts on divorce and recovery topics. DivorceCare for Kids is for kids 5-12, with topics mirroring the adult sessions. For more information, email Jim Shook at jshookup@ gmail.com or the church at admin@ centerpointpagosa.com. You can register online at www.divorcecare. org. There is a \$20 fee for the workbook. Scholarships are available.

Weekend with Anne Hillerman: Fireside Chat. 6 p.m., PLPOA Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave. Anne Hillerman will sit down with Rick Holter for a live interview and conversation Admission includes craft hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Tickets \$50 advance or \$55 at the door. Tickets can be purchased at the library or pagosalibrary.org.

Flute Music at Twilight. 6 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free. Recommended for ages 4 and up. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www. chimneyrockco.org.

Sunday, Sept. 15

Outdoor Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

Monday, Sept. 16

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour.

8-10:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour spotlights topics aimed at interpreting the history and significance of Chimney Rock and the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

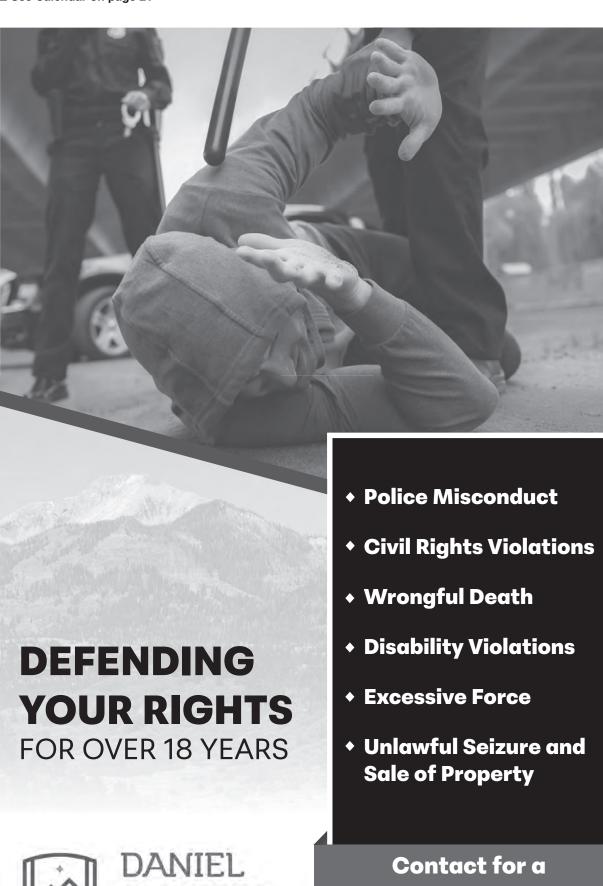
Indoor Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

Outdoor Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

Senior Conversations. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

■ See Calendar on page 21







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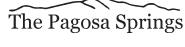
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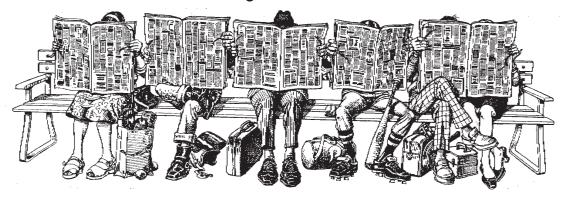
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Preview Calendar

■ continued from page 19

Learn to Knit or Crochet. 2-3:15 p.m., Sisson Library. Come learn to knit or crochet. For ages 8 and up. All supplies will be provided.

Healthy Aging and Yoga Therapy Class. 2:30-3:30 p.m., Senior Center.

Pagosa Unplugged. 4-6 p.m., Sisson Library. Musicians of all abilities are invited to jam and sing with others. Call Susan at (970) 946-3396 for details.

Deepening the Faith Classes. 6-8 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Tuesday, Sept. 17

Outdoor Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

Stretching and Mobility Class. 9:30-10:30 a.m., Senior Center. A stretching and mobility class for those age 55 and up.

Pagosa Springs Stitchers. 10 a.m.noon, Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Bring your current stitching project and a snack/drink if you wish, and enjoy the fellowship of other stitchers. All are welcome.

Veterans for Veterans of Archuleta County. 10 a.m., Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Veterans and family members are invited to share experiences with vets of all ages. Find out about the latest in vets benefits, vets news and community-focused events. Contact (970) 880-8387 for more details.

Tech Time. 10 a.m.- noon, Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Adult DIY. 1-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Learn a simple cross-stitch pattern that you can take home and work on to build your needlecraft skills.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Hand and Foot Card Game. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center. No experience is necessary, so come willing to learn.

Mahjong. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend

from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

Conversational Spanish. 4:30-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Practice your Spanish conversation skills in a group setting. No minimum skill level required.

Geology Tour. 5 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores local geology and its relationship to the daily lives of the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

PALS Adult Education. 5:30-8 p.m., Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Men's Fellowship. 6 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms.

Wednesday, Sept. 18

Indoor Pickleball. 8-11:30 a.m., Ross Aragon Community Center.

Outdoor Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

Pagosa Catholic Quilters. 9 a.m.-2 p.m., John Paul II Catholic Church classrooms. For more information, contact Maxine Everaert at quilters@ihmjp2.org.

Family Storytime. 10-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Join us for an educational hour of reading, singing and free play while building early literacy skills together. For all ages. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Mountain High Gardeners Group.
10 a.m.-noon, Community United
Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.
The group will meet in the fellowship hall to package daffodils into
bundles for distribution throughout
the community. Join and get a
package to take home for your
own garden.

Therapy Dog Visit. 11-11:45 a.m., Sisson Library. Visit with a certified therapy dog.

Virtual Author Talk: Nate Klemp.
Noon, virtual. Listen live or recorded. "Living with an Expansive Mind in a Distracted World" with Nate Kemp, Ph.D., bestselling co-author of "Start Here: Master the Lifelong Skill of Well-Being." For details and to register, go to https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming.

Bridge. 1:15 p.m., Senior Center.

Mindful Drawing. 1:15 p.m., Senior
Center.

Teen/Tween Activity. 4-4:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Head to the teen area every Wednesday after school for a fun craft or challenge. Activities will range from taste tests to art challenges and minute-to-win-it-style games.

Pagosa Springs High School Booster Club. 5:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School.

Full Moon Program. 7 p.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Tickets are \$25 per person, or \$30 with an early, guided tour. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via

■ See Calendar on next page

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Fire Restoration

Water Extraction



Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Thursday, Sept. 19

Outdoor Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

Geology Hike. 9 a.m., Ice Cave Ridge, San Juan National Forest. A free hike led by geologist Dave Bouquet. Preregistration is required at sima.org.

Ruby's Writers Guild. 9-11 a.m., Sisson Library. Ruby's Writers Guild welcomes writers who are looking for opportunities, support and camaraderie with other writers. Members will provide support, resources and guidance for each other.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

End-of-Life Education. 1 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St.

Community Supported Agriculture Program Meet and Greet. 1:30 p.m., Senior Center. In addition to the meet and greet, there will be a food demonstration and seasonal tasting.

T'ai Chi Chih. 1:30-2:30, Yamaguchi Park, Free for those 60 and better.

Tech Time. 2-4 p.m., Sisson Library. Basic questions related to computers, smartphones, tablets, etc. Bring your device charger. We provide assistance with accessing any of the library's online resources. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

Dungeons and Dragons. 4-5:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Join the adventure. Preregistration is required because space is limited. Contact Josie@ pagosalibrary.org to join.

English as a Second Language. 4-7 p.m., Sisson Library. Your library offers English as a second language classes. These classes are free. Call (970) 264-2209 or email for more information. Beginning students are encouraged to attend from 4-5 p.m., intermediate students from 5-6 p.m. and advanced students from 6-7 p.m.

PALS Adult Education. 5:30-8 p.m.,

Sisson Library. Pagosa Adult Learning Services, or PALS, can help you with high school equivalency, GED, college prep, financial aid, tutoring and more. Mark can help you develop a plan to achieve your education goals. Call (970) 264-2209 for more information.

An Autumn Encore of the 19th Hole Concerts. 5-6:30 p.m., Pagosa Springs Golf Club. A fundraiser for the Archuleta County Fund of the Community Foundation serving Southwest Colorado. Bob Hemenger will play.

'Making Room at the Inn.' 5:30-7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church fellowship hall, 434 Lewis St. Marcia Cantor from the Arvada United Methodist Church will speak about her congregation's experience working with the International Rescue Committee to host two refugee families, one from Columbia and one from Eritrea, who legally sought refuge in the United States and are receiving assistance with housing, job hunting, working through the immigration process and other needs. Join for a light dinner and discussion.

Friday, Sept. 20

Mysteries of Chimney Rock Tour. 8-10:15 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour spotlights topics aimed at interpreting the history and significance of Chimney Rock and the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

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Outdoor Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

'Making Room at the Inn.' 10 a.m.noon, Community United Methodist Church fellowship hall, 434
Lewis St. Marcia Cantor from the
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will speak about her congregation's experience working with the
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Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Community Coffee. 1-3 p.m., TARA Historical Society Community Center. For more information, email TARACommunityCenter101@gmail.com.

Bingo. 1:30-2:30 p.m., Senior Center. Free. Those under 18 must have an adult chaperone. For more information, contact (970) 264-2167.

PAWS to Read. 2-3 p.m., Sisson Library. For all ages. Read with Maple, a therapy dog who loves stories.

All-Ages Friday Flix. 2-3:30 p.m., Sisson Library. Participants will choose from a selection of PGrated movies.

ColorFest: Passport to Pagosa. 6-9 p.m., Town Park. Tickets for the wine and food festival are \$100. This is a 21+ event. For more information and tickets, visit www. pagosachamber.com.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Football.
7 p.m., Golden Peaks Stadium.
Pagosa Springs High School vs.
Monte Vista. Homecoming.

Saturday, Sept. 21

ColorFest: Hot Air Balloon Mass Ascension. 7:30 a.m., downtown. ColorFest: Aspen House Color Run/

Walk 5K. 8 a.m., Yamaguchi Park. This colorful event is open to participants of all ages and fitness levels. Register at https://runsignup.com/Race/CO/PagosaSprings/Color-FestColorRunWalk5K.

■ See Calendar on next page

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A widowed mother's only son has died. Jesus had compassion on her. He said to her, "Weep not." Then he...? Sunday, 10am.

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Preview Calendar

■ continued from previous page

Geology Tour. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This tour explores local geology and its relationship to the daily lives of the Ancestral Puebloans. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-15, and under 5 are free. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Birding at Chimney Rock. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. A fun and casual two-hour guided bird walk. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, and \$10 for ages 5-12. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Art at the Pinnacles: Plein Air Workshop. 8 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Tickets are \$25 for ages 10 and up. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

Conversations in the Garden. 8:30 a.m., Pagosa Springs Community Garden. A gathering to chat about the pleasures and challenges of growing at the local climate and elevation.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Boys' Soccer. 10 a.m., Golden Peaks Stadium. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Alamosa.

Pickleball Beginner Lessons. 10 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts. Register on the Pagosa Springs Parks and Recreation page at https://secure. rec1.com/CO/pagosa-springs-co/ catalog.

GriefShare. 10-11:30 a.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program to assist with the healing process, regardless of how long it is since your loved one passed. For more information, call Marie Rasco at (970) 946-9379 or Centerpoint Church at (970) 731-2205. You can also register and learn more at www. griefshare.org.

Guided Great House Tour. 10:30 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. This guided tour takes visitors 1/3 mile up the Great Pueblo Trail. Tickets are \$12 for ages 13 and up and \$6 for ages 5-12. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chim-

neyrockco.org.

LEGO Club. 11 a.m.-noon, Sisson Library. For kids 6-11 years old. Bring your own or use the library's LEGOs to free build. Contact the library at (970) 264-2209 for further information.

Pokémon Club. 12:30-2:30 p.m., Sisson Library. For ages 6-11. Bring your cards to battle against others who love Pokemon too. No experience is required.

Pagosa Springs Varsity Volleyball. 1 p.m., Pagosa Springs High School. Pagosa Springs High School vs. Centauri.

DivorceCare/DivorceCare for Kids. 4-5:30 p.m., Centerpoint Church, 2750 Cornerstone Drive. A 13-week program that provides a safe environment for people who have gone through, are going through or are considering divorce and features experts on divorce and recovery topics. DivorceCare for Kids is for kids 5-12, with topics mirroring the adult sessions. For more information, email Jim Shook at jshookup@ gmail.com or the church at admin@ centerpointpagosa.com. You can register online at www.divorcecare. org. There is a \$20 fee for the workbook. Scholarships are available.

ColorFest: Bands and Brews Festival. 4-8 p.m., Town Park. Tickets are \$10 for ages 15 and up. Beer tasting is \$35 for those 21+. For more information and tickets, visit www.pagosachamber.com.

Virtual Author Talk: Liane Moriarty. 5 p.m., virtual. A deep dive in character development with global sensation Liane Moriarty, bestselling author of "Big Little Lies" and more. For details and to register, go to https://libraryc.org/pagosalibrary/upcoming.

Sunday, Sept. 22

Autumn Equinox Tour. 5 a.m., Chimney Rock National Monument. Watch the sun rise over the San

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The Pagosa Springs SUN 264-2100

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Juan Mountains on the first morning of fall. The significance of the equinox to the Ancestral Puebloans will be discussed. Tickets are \$20 for ages 13 and up, \$10 for ages 5-12, and under 5 are free. Registration is required 12 hours in advance via rec.gov. For more information, visit www.chimneyrockco.org.

ColorFest: Hot Air Balloon Mass Ascension. 7:30 a.m., uptown.

Outdoor Pickleball. 8 a.m.-noon, Yamaguchi Park South pickleball courts.

Eighth Annual Community Fall Picnic and Raffle. Noon-3 p.m,
Pagosa Catholic Community Pavilion.

Bingo. 5:45 p.m., Pope John Paul II Catholic Church, 353 S. Pagosa Blvd. Doors open at 5 p.m., earlybird bingo at 5:45 p.m., bingo from 6-8 p.m.

Major Lunar Standstill Special Lecture: Dr. Kim Malville. 7 p.m., Community United Methodist Church, 434 Lewis St. Dr. Kim Malville will speak on "New Light on Chimney Rock: The Sun, Moon and the Great Supernova of 1054."



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Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate

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Pre-Season Rate/Regular Rate

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Things I've learned

By Betty Slade

PREVIEW Columnist

Many times when I've come out of some horrible experience that shook me to my toes and rattled my cage I've said, "I needed that. I don't think I could've learned the lesson any other way."

So, from my recent accident, I've learned many things I should've known years ago, but didn't take the time to learn.

Compassion. I've seen people struggle in wheelchairs and limp in pain, but didn't understand the difficulty it would be to be bound and dependent. Moving from the wheelchair to the bed, recliner, bathroom, or the desk and computer, takes great effort. Being so independent, thinking I didn't need help before, I have to rely on others. I've missed the blessing of the sweetness and caring of other people. That's a tragedy.

Be good to your family. If your kids don't like you for good reason, change your attitude and get right with them. In a split second you might be calling on them for help. My family, the minute they were called, moved into a what-can-we-do-to-help mode. I was relieved there is nothing between us but sweetness and love. I've asked a lot of them.

They had to change their work schedules, made trips to Colorado Springs, took care of insurance claims, buy and install supplies for home care, obtained home care when I came from the hospital, and provided someone to be on duty all the time with their dad.

Don't judge people by how they look. I met some really different characters in the hospital. One young lady, a nurse in her 20s, surprised me. A high-pitched, baby, irritating voice came into the room — one of those voices that you want to slap away. The voice belonged to large, football-linebacker girl with big broad hands. Yet, when they rotated staff, she was the one I looked forward to coming

Artist's Lane

on duty. There was such an assurance and safety in her care for me that I forgot the voice.

Another young man who turned me helped me and gave me the most wonderful care; he was one of my favorites. On his fingers, he had tattooed "love" on his left hand, "self" on his right. I said, "There must be a story in those tattoos." With a tear in his heart, he said, "Yes." We don't know the pain others have experienced to get to where they are. I loved that guy.

My occupational therapist challenged me about a statement I made. Why did he need God?

With his cute man bun, to be married Sept. 27 in the Durango wilderness, he wasn't concerned about knowing God. I told him in this dark world he would meet challenges that would shake him and his marriage; he needed the light of Jesus in him to be able to see. He said he is seeing fine.

I told him and several other staff members, "I'm here right now telling you the truth. I'm passing through one time. I'm not coming back. So, whether you believe me or not, one day you will need the light, and His name is Jesus."

I did not realize it, but I have been living my life as a job to be done. Always on time, prepared to do the job, no matter how hard, and to finish strong. Oh me, when the Lord gave me, hopefully, a few more years, like in a great novel, with a feel-good ending, I needed to see my life as a well-written story with a satisfying end. Not a life with rolled-up sleeves attacking the world, but a person who enjoys her life. This new me should make life easier for the people around me.

Most important, I got to experience the love and support of friends and family before my time to leave the earth. I couldn't believe how many cared about me, how they met in prayer groups to pray, and sent beautiful, over-the-top words as if they wrote my eulogy before my departure date. I felt so much love and respect. Everyone should experience this kind of appreciation from others.

There were many more things I learned in the throes of darkness fighting against the light, which I will share another time.

Final brushstroke: Thank you again for all the prayers and love and those who have come alongside me. Yes, I don't think I could have learned these lessons any other way. I have a few months of healing ahead, but I see the beauty of the people around me and the beauty of this life. Thanks to all of you.

Reader comments

Appreciated words from Mark Crain, who so many know.

"Oh my DEAREST DEAREST FRIEND who is left back in P town! Oh I have hit my knees for your behalf! I just got last week's paper and read your entry. Yes, in two months I will turn 78 but what a precious privilege to fall on my knees and lift you up to our Savior Jesus Christ for absolute and complete healing of your body! Oh how I wish I could see that magnificent smile! You take care my dearest friend as you have shared so much Love towards me, I want you to know that I pounded Glory for your complete healing! HE told me yes. HE wants you back also! Love you dear sister and my most special friend who has taught me so much! I hope this medicine helps. Say a big HI to Sweet Al and a giant gift of love and prayer to you my dearest friend. I will stay in touch. Mark Crain."

Send your comment to bettyslade. author@gmail.com.

Views expressed do not necessarily represent those of The SUN.

Trying new things and making new friends

By Daris Howard

Special to The PREVIEW

My wife, Donna, and I recently went to an awards ceremony. It was to honor people who have been an asset to their communities.

A friend of Donna's was receiving an award, and we wanted to be there to support her. When we got there, there was only one last seat at Donna's friend's table, so I let Donna sit there, and I pulled up a chair at an adjacent table. I asked the others there if one of them was getting an award.

One man nodded. "I am, but I really don't know what it's all about."

"Well," I said, "the newspaper asks people to nominate a person they feel serves well in their community. Then, the newspaper staff chooses those from the entries they want to honor. Apparently, someone nominated you for your service, and the newspaper people liked you."

"I can't imagine what I've done," the man said.

I laughed. "Well, we'll know when we hear what the person wrote about you."

The man said his name was David, and he felt he was just an ordinary guy. He said he felt awkward getting an award when he didn't do anything special.

When it came time for David's award, the lady doing the announcements shared that when David

mowed his lawn, he would anonymously go around the neighborhood and mow the lawns of older people and others who needed help. In winter, he did the same thing with his snowblower. Whenever there was something to be done, David was always willing to do it and try new things. He was always the first to greet new people moving into the neighborhood.

When David returned to his seat, I said, "That was quite impressive."

He shrugged. "There is a reason I try new things and help people. When I reached high school age, my family moved to a state in the south. There were a lot of cultural differ-

■ See Friends on next page

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Hilltop Cemetery Fall Clean-Up

To assist Town crews in the clean-up of the cemetery prior to winter, and to provide a safe environment for loved ones and visitors, please remove the following items from burial plots, driveways, paths, or rights-ofway before Tuesday, October 1, 2024:

Artificial flowers & shrubs which are **faded and falling** apart

Statues which are broken and in disrepair

Disposable vases which are broken and in disrepair (may be replaced after the clean-up)

Please watch for a community meeting after the first of the year to review and update current cemetery guidelines.

Plots may be purchased at Town Hall and are for interment rights only.

Burials are not permitted without a completed application available at Town Hall.

A complete set of rules may be obtained from Town Hall or at pagosasprings.co.gov/cemeteries.



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Getting to the root of the issue

PREVIEW Columnist

When it comes to weed management, what's below the surface is often more important than what is

There are two main types of roots: taproots and fibrous roots.

Controlling a taprooted plant is fairly straightforward — just yank it out of the ground. As long as the root crown is removed, or the first 4 inches of the root, it won't grow back.

Examples of noxious weeds with a taproot are: musk thistle, common mullein, common burdock and salt cedar. Field bindweed also has a taproot and the above-ground portions of the plant are connected to rhizomes, or underground stems. When pulling a 3-foot section of field bindweed root from your garden you may feel the thrill of victory, but the main root is still lurking deep below the surface.

Fibrous roots may be very simple or complex. Some fibrous roots are shallow and easy to pull, like in the case of cheatgrass. Other fibrous (also called adventitious) roots may be attached to rhizomes, which complicates the issue. Plants like leafy spurge, Russian knapweed, Canada thistle, yellow toadflax and oxeye daisy form a colony of aboveground shoots connected underground via rhizomes — much like an aspen grove. The rhizomes are lined with buds, and any disturbance to the root system will actually trigger more above-ground growth. Any mechanical control must be done with diligence over many years to finally sap the energy from the root reserves and

Extension Viewpoints

starve the plant.

When controlling plants with herbicides, it's important to know the flow of nutrients. Nutrients move from source to sink. Sugar created in the photosynthesizing leaves is transported to either new growth, flowers or the root system depending on the time of year.

For annuals and biennials, the root system is built up after germination and then all of the energy goes to creating mass and flowering before the plant dies after seed production. Once an annual has produced a bloom and is near seed set it is best to pull it. Biennials have a slight intermission, and only form vegetative mass the first year and then go dormant during the winter. During the second year, energy is flowing up the root into the newly grown tissue. Biennials will enter a vegetative phase before flowering. After producing seed, they will die naturally.

Perennials may live and flower for many years. Short-lived perennials may live for as little as five years, while longer-lived perennials can live for decades. Russian knapweed colonies can survive for upward of 75 years. New seedlings can be handpulled, but in the case of Canada thistle, a seedling is considered perennial after 2.5 weeks, meaning it has enough root mass that anything

left behind will generate a new plant. Creeping perennials can often

survive a spring treatment as nutrients are flowing upward from the root and the herbicide will not be translocated outside of the foliar tissue. Depending on the species and chemical used, creeping perennials can be treated between full vegetative growth, bloom or a fall treatment. In the fall, the plants are moving nutrients into the roots in order to overwinter and a greater rate of success can be achieved.

Archuleta County Weed and Pest is your local resource for managing noxious weed populations and controlling other pests.

CPR and first aid classes

CPR and first aid certification classes are offered every other month at the CSU Extension office, generally on the second Monday and Wednesday from 6 to 10 p.m. The cost for the classes is \$80 for combined CPR/first aid and \$55 for CPR, first aid or recertification. Call the Extension office at (970) 246-5931 to register.

Check out the online option on our website, https://archuleta.extension.colostate.edu/.



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Friends

■ continued from previous page

ences. I tried to make friends on the days we went to sign up for classes, get our lockers and things like that, but everyone acted like I was an alien lost on Earth.

'Then came the first day of school. Things weren't any better in my classes. At lunchtime, everyone lined up, so I did, too. I wasn't sure what the line was for. 'Lunch,' the guy in front of me replied to my question. 'And the line is long because we're having catfish.' He paused momentarily and then said, 'Oh, and I guess there is probably chicken, too.

"I was shocked. 'Catfish?' I said. 'When I go fishing, I just throw those ugly things away.' The girl behind me grabbed my shoulder and pulled me to face her. 'Are you crazy?' she asked in her very southern accent. 'My Pappy grows catfish for a living, and there ain't nothing better.'

"I was embarrassed and said, 'Mavbe I'll have the chicken.' 'No, you won't!' she replied. 'You will have the catfish, and you will like it.'

The way she said it, I knew it represent those of The SUN.

wasn't a request.

'When we got up to the food serving window, I was asked what I wanted. I was about to say chicken, but then I saw the girl staring at me. 'Catfish,' I said, 'I'll have the catfish,'

'She smiled at me, and I suddenly felt happier. I went to a table and sat down all alone. No one else came to sit with me. I tried the fish and really did like it. After I finished it and turned to my dessert, the girl suddenly sat down across from me. 'How did you like the catfish?' she asked. 'It was delicious,' I replied. 'I'm glad I got it instead of chicken.'

"She smiled, and her whole demeanor toward me changed. 'I knew you would like it if you only tried it,' she said. We finished our meal together, and suddenly, I had a friend. With her friendship, others began to accept me as well.

'That's when I realized something that has helped me all through my life: trying new things and making new friends often goes hand in hand."

Views expressed do not necessarily

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PAGOSA AA: M-W-F 5:30P.M.; Sunday 10a.m, Tuesday and Thursday at noon, Saturday at 10a.m.. Zoom Sunday 10a.m., ID 858 319 763, password 754 234, 315 N. 2nd St., County Road 200 (.2 miles off 160). Information, call Kathi (970)946-1482, or Central Office (888)333-9649.

THERE IS A SOLUTION GROUP of Alcoholics Anonymous meets Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, 5:30-6:30p.m. Pagosa Bible Church, 209 Harman Park Drive. Questions? Richard: (970)903-1456. Diamond: (970)264-1073. More resources: www.aa.org, www. aa-westerncolorado.com, (970)245-9649, (888)333-9649 (24 hours).

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Construction, Decks, Patios & Sheds

Small & Large Jobs Welcome Westward Inc.



METAL ROOF MAINTENANCE- featuring roof screw replacement. Stop the leaks by changing out worn out screws with new screws and fresh washers. Call Arlies Chimney Sweep (970)731-2543.

MINT ROOFING Re-roofs, commercial and maintenance. Contact Mint Roofing at (970)426-5255.

PAGOSA SPARKLES, LLC. Group of high standard cleaners, reliable, trustworthy and affordable. Window cleaning also available. Text/ call KIM. (970)946-6446.

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

SERVICES



Semi-retired plumber 30+ years experience 15+ years in Pagosa Reasonable rates • Local references

Michael • 480-685-6191 I return all calls!

The Water Runner

Certified Bulk Potable Water Delivery Cistern Deep Cleaning

we haul! Since 1999

(970) 731-5022 Chadd Carnley, owner

PAGOSA SPRINGS STORAGE has all size units available. 24 hour access, gated, with security cameras. Call for specials. (970)731-0007 www.pagosaspringsstorage.com.

PREMIUM PEAK CLEANING. Local. Reliable. Detailed. Call (970)902-3145.

PROFESSIONAL SNOW REMOVAL. - Residential and Commercial. Fully insured. Shovel and salt upon request. Call now for quote. (970)946-4450.

PROPERTY MAINTENANCE/ HOME CARE checks, providing snow removal, landscaping, handyman services. Call Eric (970)946-2061.

RICHARD DECLARK ELECTRICAL is available for all vour electrical services from remodels to new construction. I have been in Pagosa for 15 years, no job too small or too large. (970)903-1456.

RIVERSTONE CARPET CLEANING. 25 cents/sq. ft. and \$3 per stair. No hidden charges. Owner/operator 20 years experience. Professional, trustworthy and punctual. 100% eco-friendly. Call Mike at (970)403-9222. Credit cards accepted with no fee. Hallways and closets always free.

ROOF REPAIRS, LEAKS, RESCREWS, INSPECTIONS. 35+ years experience. Call Jeff at Blair Roofing. (970)903-6556.

RRR-RAVEN RANCH RESTORATION.

Fencing; pasture and yards. Pond and stream restoration. Entry way, gates. Parshall flumes; diverter boxes, head gates. Water management; decks, gazebos, and structures. Pasture management; weed and seed. Tree felling; arborist services. Firewood. Steel fabrication; welding. Carpentry; framing and custom furniture. (970)398-0518.

SKID STEER EXCAVATOR, DUMP trailer for hire. Driveways, foundations, gravel, septic systems, etc. Call Josh Soniat (970)903-5892.

SERVICES



For All Your Housekeeping & Window Cleaning Needs Find us on Google & Facebook

Text/call Kim (970) 946-6446

TANKLESS/ON DEMAND WATER HEAT-ERS. Largest inventory in the area, including replacement parts. Same day Installation and service in most cases. We are the only compa-

ny that extends the parts & labor warranty from 1 year to 5 years. VAIL HOME SERVICES, (760)835-1041.

TIDY TOUCH CLEANING SERVICES LLC. Where spotless cleaning comes to your door. (801)201-0496

TREE & CLEAR LLC. Tree service, Yard Maintenance, Brush Removal, and Snow Removal. Insured and experienced. Give me a call at (720)666-5761

TREE REMOVAL. Licensed and insured up to \$2 million. Free estimates. No obligations. Call OR text (970)903-8068.

WE HAUL. WE WILL haul off anything but your marijuana or your mother- in- law. No job too big or too small. We also move buildings. We don't haul pigs. Dan Snow (719)849-8873.

WEBSITE DESIGN, SOCIAL MEDIA AND **DIGITAL AD EXPERT.** Available to help grow your business. www.mgmpagosa.com Text: (928)246-1321.

WINDOW CLEANING —RESIDENTIAL Bonded and insured. 25 yrs. experience REFLECTIONS Window Cleaning. (480)892-1999 -FREE estimates.

HEALTH

HOT SPRINGS HEALERS. Sessions at hot springs! Also, cranial sacral, bodywork, massage. Serving Pagosa 27 years, Dr. Dean and Amanda, (970)844-0645, (970)903-5309.

HELP WANTED

2 JOURNEYMEN FRAMING CARPENTERS

and 1 Apprentice. Top Pay. Log experience helpful but not necessary. Lost Park Builders Inc. 640 Pompa Dr. (970)731-1102.

3R RANCH HIRING one full or part-time position, Ranch and landscape maintenance, Must have own reliable transportation and valid driver's license. 40 hours a week available. \$20 to start. (970)264-5160.

HELP WANTED

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT II. RED WILLOW PRODUCTION CO. RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING ACCOUNTS PAYABLE AND ACCOUNTING SUPPORT TO THE RED WILLOW PRODUCTION ACCOUNTING DEPARTMENT. AA/ AS IN ACCOUNTING, FINANCE OR BUSINESS WITH 3 EXPERI-ENCE OR A HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR FQUIVALENT WITH 5 YEARS EXPERIENCE. PREFERENCE IS GIVEN TO QUALIFIED SOUTHERN UTE TRIBAL MEMBERS AND OTHER NATIVE AMERICANS. CLOSING DATE: 5:00P.M. ON 9/13/2024. TO APPLY,

HTTP://WWW.SUGF.COM/CAREERS/

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/ FRONT **DESK PERSON** needed for diverse office. Must be MS Office proficient with strong business writing and communication skills, able to multi-task, organized and detail-oriented. Tech savvy a plus. Please send your resume to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com.

ALLEY HOUSE GRILLE. Support staff, food runners, hosts, bussers. Full and part time. \$15/ Hour plus tips. See Chris Tuesday-Friday 3p.m.-5p.m or email to contact@ alleyhousegrille.com.

ARCHULETA SENIORS INC. has an immediate opening for an experienced horticulturist to grow food In a grow dome to supplement the ASI nutrition program for older adults in Archuleta County. See complete job description and apply online at Indeed.com. Title of the job in the posting is Archuleta Seniors Grow Dome Horticulturist.

EXPERIENCED LINE COOK for City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

FIRESIDE CABINS are looking for Full-time or Part-time housekeeper. 3-5 days a week. Starting pay \$18 an hour. Great work environment, will train. Days flexible - Hours vary from 9a.m.-3p.m. but are flexible. English is not a requirement. (OFF ALL MAJOR HOLIDAYS)

Fireside Cabins está buscando ama de llaves a tiempo completo o parcial necesaria 5 días a la semana. Comenzando a pagar \$18 por hora. Gran ambiente de trabajo, entrenará. No hay lavandería, los horarios varían de 9a.m. - 3p.m., pero son flexibles. El inglés no es un requisito. (FUERA DE TODOS LOS PRINCIPALES VACACIONES)

Fireside Cabins 1600 E Hwy 160 Pagosa Springs. (East side of Pagosa just past Hwy 84 & 160 junction 1 mile from downtown Pagosa area) must be dependable. For more information call (970)264-9204 or email Johnjessharper@gmail.com. Come in to preview our facility.

FT /PT HOST at City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

FULL AND PART-TIME FRONT DESK OPPORTUNITIES. If you have a friendly, approachable, team-oriented attitude; strong customer service skills; comfort with computers; and a strong work ethic we'd love to talk. Shifts may include a combination of mornings, days, nights, and weekends. Our front desk is open 8a.m. to 10p.m. daily, including holidays. Download application at www.pshotsprings. com or stop by to pick one up. Resumes applications can be emailed to: sales@ pshotsprings.com, Attention Front Desk Position or dropped off at front desk. Healing Waters Resort & Spa, 140 Hot Springs Blvd.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

WE ARE NOW HIRING!



You belong on the **Archuleta School** District team!

Currently accepting applications for the following positions:

Mechanics

Full-time position with a starting salary of \$49,496-\$54,711 for a 250-day work schedule.

Bus Drivers/Transportation

Hourly position with a starting hourly pay of \$25.83 up to \$30.73 for 169 days

Benefits for all FULL-TIME positions include (but are not limited to) PERA State Retirement, Life Insurance, optional Health and Dental Insurance and paid Discretionary Days.

Archuleta School District

strives to achieve "Success for Every Student — Every Class — Every Day."



For more details and to apply for these positions, click on "Job Postings" at www.mypagosaschools.com EOE



TERRY'S COLORADO HOME SUPPLY AND ACE HARDWARE IS SEEKING A MOTIVATED, DEPENDABLE, DETAIL **ORIENTED INDIVIDUAL FOR SALES IN OUR FURNITURE DEPARTMENT.**

Product or home design familiarity is a plus; proficient computer skills, exceptional communication, people and customer service skills are a must have

Job requires working in a team atmosphere, high level of professionalism, and building long term

customers through a dynamic service repertoire. Starts at \$18/hr with benefits. Full time/40hr week

Applicants will need to be available for weekends and holidays. Apply in person at 525 Navajo Trail Drive.

CONTRACTOR SALES

Ponderosa Lumber is seeking a customer service oriented individual to assist contractors with purchasing building materials. Knowledge of building materials is necessary.

Responsibilities include:

- Providing excellent customer service
- Completing required paperwork
- Providing product information
- Data Entry

Please apply in person at

Ponderosa Lumber

2435 Eagle Drive or call (970) 731-4111

WANTED

1 full-time office person and 1 full-time Driver

Paid Vacation Simple IRA Match PTO and other perks.

Please apply within.



WJP/PRO

3505 W. Hwy. 160 in the lobby of the Pagosa Lodge



PagosaSUN.com

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

HELP WANTED

NEWSPAPER REPORTER — We are

searching for a talented reporter to fill a full-

time position in Pagosa Springs, Colorado,

HELP WANTED



Walmart Pagosa Springs Supercenter

In-person hiring event

Friday, Sept. 13 & Saturday, Sept. 14 Walk ins welcome from 10am-2pm

Starting at \$18.00/hour+

Start the application process at www.walmart.com/careers

Year around guaranteed FULL TIME hours

WINTER WORK!

Wolf Creek Ski Area is Hiring Full & Part-Time/Holiday Positions:

- Lift Department Base Operations/Parking Ski School Instructors &
- Reservationist Food & Beverage * Baker * Barista
- Ticket Office
- Ski & Snowboard Rental
- Snow Removal * Grooming Custodial Building Maintenance
- Ski Patrol
- Guest Services/Snow Reporter
- Freelance Photographer

Applications at

WolfCreekSki.com/employment Send applications and resumes to:

WolfCreekSki@WolfCreekSki.com P.O. Box 2800, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147

ALL POSITIONS OFFER SKIING PRIVILEGES STARTING WAGE OF \$19/HOUR



HELP WANTED: PART-TIME ACCOUNTANT Community United Methodist Church seeks a part-time accountant (15 hours/ week). Candidates must have experience in Quickbook software and at least 5 years of experience. Responsibilities include managing financial records, preparing reports, and overseeing budgeting. Strong organizational skills are required. Send your resume to the church at pastor@cumcps.org, or mail it to P.O. Box 300, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147 or drop it off

MALT SHOPPE NOW HIRING. Apply in person between 9a.m. and 2p.m.

at the church 434 Lewis St. to apply



Archuleta Housing has an immediate opening for a person with maintenance experience. This is a part-time position. This position involves taking care of small repairs, general maintenance and larger remodel projects. We have 65 apartments and common area grounds at 4 sites. Ability to take direction, work as a team or independently is needed. Must have valid driver's license and submit to a background check.

Starting wage DOE.

Please contact our office for an application

office@archhouse@gmail.com 970-398-1860

HOMETOWN INSURANCE is looking to fill a full-time receptionist/administrative assistant position. Prior experience is required. Must be detail oriented, able to multi-task and proficient in Google Docs, Sheets, Excel, Word and Adobe. Phone and typing skills are a must. Our ideal candidate will have a friendly and warm personality while being professional, responsible and motivated. A customer-oriented approach is essential. Send resumes with references to info@hippsllc.com.

Terry's Colorado Home Supply and Ace Hardware

Hiring for:

Full time, year around Cashier

Weekend days required. Starting at \$17/hr. Must be reliable, motivated and team oriented. Benefits include discounts, paid time off, profit sharing and more. Apply in person. Applications available at terrysace.com



COLORADO HOME Terry's ACE 525 Navajo Trail Dr.



MASSAGE THERAPIST WANTED. Parttime, evenings, could grow to full-time. Competitive pay. Please apply in person at The Overlook, 432 Pagosa Street. Monday-Friday, 8a.m. to 5p.m.

MOUNTAIN MAMA MASSAGE is looking for LMTs to join our team! Utilize your healing gifts in our fun, relaxed work environment where you are appreciated! TOP PAY \$50 /hour +tips. Email racheldevloo@gmail.com.

at The Pagosa Springs SUN. Our journalists are driven to find stories that matter to our community and are dedicated to fairness, accuracy, and ethics. The successful candidate for this position is someone who knows how to cover hard news but also loves to write about people and their passions. They know that a good interview is often a good conversation and know when to ask the tough questions, but also when to listen. The ideal candidate has exceptional writing skills and is willing to put in the extra effort and research to deliver an engaging story. Preferred qualifications for this position include: Degree or diploma in journalism, or a related field; At least 1-3 years of experience as a reporter with experience covering hard news and feature stories or experience at a college newspaper; The ability to meet tight deadlines and report the news as it happens: Superior language, writing and editing skills; Strong photography skills; Able to work a variety of schedules, including evenings, nights and weekends; Excellent critical thinking and problem-solving skills; Ability to work in a fast-paced environment; A valid driver's license and a reliable vehicle; Willingness to live in or near Pagosa Springs, Colorado. If this sounds like the perfect position for you, we would love to hear from you! To apply. please send your resume, letter of interest and relevant samples of your work to Chad Richardson, Vice President of News, crichardson@orourkemediagroup.com. Company Benefits: We offer competitive compensation plans and employees are eligible for medical, dental, vision, life insurance benefits, paid time off and our 401 (k) savings plan. This is an excellent opportunity for career development and growth within the company O'Rourke Media Group is a fast-growing company that owns and operates hyper-local, community newspapers, websites, niche publications and a full-service digital agency. We are family-owned and mission-driven to save newspapers and local media companies by investing in the people, resources and technology needed to thrive for many years to come. We believe that every community can benefit from a well-run, properly resourced, local newspaper and website. Our News teams produce hyper-local, high interest local news and accurate and trustworthy reporting. Our Sales and Digital Fulfillment teams bring omnichannel advertising solutions to local businesses in the communities we serve. O'Rourke Media Group now operates in nine states and 38 markets with 51 publications and hyper-local websites. We started from ground zero in December 2018, totally bootstrapped, confident and with an entrepreneurial mindset

GOODMAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE is looking for a sales associate, Saturdays required. Sales associates must be friendly and self-motivated. Ask about our benefits and employee discounts. Come pick up an application at 402 Pagosa Street.

HELP WANTED Experienced server /bartender preferred. City Hall Cafe and Grill. Apply within. 2151 Eagle Drive.

GENERAL LABORER NEEDED F/T or P/T Seasonal. Assorted Duties. Please send resume or work history to frontdesk@ pagosalandcompany.com. Phone (970)264**CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE.** Opening a result of an internal promotion! The Pagosa Springs SUN is recruiting for a dynamic, versatile customer service representative. This position is required to work at our office at 457 Lewis Street, Pagosa Springs, CO 81147. Hours 8am to 4pm. Job Responsibilities: • Account Management: Support the Advertising Department with account management activity that's associated with customers running ads in The SUN PREVIEW, special publications and on our digital platforms. • Administrative: Handle postal paperwork, insertion order processing and payment processing for advertising and subscriptions. • Service: Provide personable, friendly customer service answering phones and interacting in person with customers that visit the office. • Communication: Serve as a point of contact for internal and external communications. Answer phones, respond to emails and direct inquiries to the appropriate team members. • Project assistance: Assist with special projects and initiatives as needed. Requirements: • 3-5 years of experience working in an office. • Excellent attention to detail and accuracy in data entry. • Strong organizational and time management skills to meet payroll deadlines. • Excellent communication skills on the phone and through all communication channels. • High level of proficiency in MS Excel and other Microsoft Office applications. • Compensation Range/ Benefits • \$17-\$20/hour depending on experience level. • Eligible for medical, dental and vision benefits on the 1st of the month after 30 days of employment. • Eligible to enroll in the company's 401 (k) retirement savings on the 1st of the month after 90 days. The company matches 50% of your contribution up to 2.5% of total compensation. • 16 days of PTO plus 4-5 paid holidays. • Opportunity for advancement and career growth within the company. About the Company: O'Rourke Media Group is a family-owned, diversified media company that was formed in 2018. Originally just a holding company that owned a few newspapers, O'Rourke Media Group (OMG) has established itself as an industry-leading, digital media company comprising a cutting edge digital agency and an impres sive group of award-winning, hyper-local print newspapers and niche magazines. OMG now operates in nine states and 38 markets with 51 publications and hyper-local websites. Send along your email or letter of interest directly to ČÉO Jim O'Rourke at jorourke@ orourkemediagroup.com.

GEOLOGIC TECHNICIAN II and III. Red Willow Production Co. Provides tech/admin support to the Geologic team, works with geoscientists to provide maps and database maintenance for projects. Works within geographic database programs, such as ArcGIS and other oil/ gas mapping platforms. Works with Engineering, Land, and Ops teams. BA/ BS in Geology, or other relevant field with 1 -5 year experience OR, Technical Degree with 5 -9 years experience OR, HS Diploma or equivalent with 7 -10 years experience. Preference is given to qualified Southern Ute Tribal members and other Native Americans. Closing date: 5:00p.m. on 9/13/2024. To apply, visit: http://www.sugf.com/Careers/

HIGHER GROUNDS COFFEE SHOP is hiring barista and bakers! Apply online at highergroundspagosa.com/careers. Must be able to work weekends.

Classifieds

(970) 264-2100

Office Hours: Monday — Friday 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Classified Deadline: Tuesday 10 a.m.

HELP WANTED

IMMEDIATE OPENING for CDL Driver / Equipment Operator. Experience is forestry equipment helpful. Must pass drug test. Local driving only. Please send your resume to frontdesk@pagosalandcompany.com.

LAZY ONE PAJAMA SHOP looking for parttime employee. 1 -3 days/ week. More info call (713)516-1915 or (713)594-7720.

MOUNTAIN SPIRITS IS SEEKING customer service associates. Must be available nights and weekends. We offer accrued vacation/ personal time, performance-based bonuses twice a year, and employee discounts. Please apply in person.

NORTH PAGOSA MARATHON is hiring a full-time cashier nights and weekends. Competitive wages. Please apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL is hiring a church and school secretary. Please contact Leah Hellrich for position details at (816)585-2892.

OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN SCHOOL is looking to hire a PE Teacher for our school. Hours are M-Th from 12:30 -3:30 p.m. Please contact Leah Hellerich if you are interested in the position at (816)585-2892.

OWNERS, THERE IS A LONG TERM RENT-AL SHORTAGE IN PAGOSA SPRINGS. We have a waiting list for approved tenants. Need all types of rentals. Call us today for lowest commission and highest customer service. All you have to do is wait for your rent check to come in. We do the rest! Rocky Mountain Realty & Rentals (970)507-1192.

PAGOSA LIQUOR IS HIRING a full-time cashier. Please come and apply in person at 30 N. Pagosa Blvd.

PAGOSA THERAPEUTICS AND THE GREEN HOUSE are looking for friendly and enthusiastic people who are eager to share their knowledge and help customers navigate the wide world of cannabis. Must be 21 years of age. A Marijuana Enforcement Division badge is required to start work. Come join a growing company with opportunities for advancement and involvement in outreach events. Please email your resume to employment@jandjinc.net.

PHYSICAL THERAPY TECH Rocky Mountain Physical Therapy has an opening for a full time Physical Therapy Tech. We are looking for a dependable, energetic multitasker who will enjoy helping people recover from surgeries, injuries, accidents and other health issues to join our team. No prior experience necessary. We offer competitive pay, \$16-18 per hour, and benefits including paid holidays, paid sick leave, 401k plan, and a profit-sharing program. Please submit resume to RMPT 117 Navajo Trail Dr., Suite T or email to rockymountainpt@yahoo.com.

HELP WANTED

PLANT PROCESS OPERATOR, II AND SENIOR. Red Cedar Gathering Company. Operates 1 or more gas plant processes, including assist in shutdown planning or other diversified tasks. Plant facilities could include gas processing plants, plant compressors, electric generation, dehydration equipment, control systems, treating systems as well as other processes. HS diploma/ equivalent AND 8 to 12 years experience in gas/ amine plant processing. Preference is given to qualified Southern Ute Tribal members and other Native Americans. Closing date: 5:00p.m. on 9/13/2024. To apply, visit: http://www.sugf.com/Careers/

PONDEROSA LUMBER IS SEEKING a person for a yard associate/ driver position. Lumber experience and/or CDL license is a plus, but not necessary. Duties may include delivering loads to job sites, as well as helping customers in the yard, loading/ unloading trucks and providing inventory support. We offer competitive wages based on experience and a benefit package that includes Holiday Pay, Paid Time Off, 401(k) and Medical/ Dental insurance for full-time employees. Please apply in person at 2435 Eagle Drive in Pagosa Springs.

PROJECT SUPERINTENDENT Construction experience, knowledge of building codes, read and understand plans, project management and leadership experience helpful. Benefits. Call (970)585-1021.

ROOF LABORER NEEDED with some construction experience. Will train. \$20-\$25/ hour to start. (970)749-0830.

SUBWAY IS HIRING. Enjoy working in a fun environment with a great team? Earn a strong hourly wage with tips while serving our wonderful community. Apply online at subway. com. or in person.

THE PAGOSA FIRE PROTECTION DIS-TRICT is seeking highly motivated candidates for the position of Fire Inspector (\$49,000 - \$53,544 DOQ). This is a full-time position with standard benefits. The ideal candidate will have extensive communication skills. attention to detail, and the ability to maintain a positive working relationship with all members and the public. Full job description can be found on the District website at www. pagosafire.org. To apply, candidates must submit a completed Employment Application. Application packets can be obtained by email at TBliss@PagosaFire.com, or by calling Tomi Bliss (970)731-4191. Applications received after September 20, 2024, 5:00p.m. (MST) will not be considered.

TRIMMER WANTED. We are looking for a trimmer to join our Pagosa Craft team. Pay is based per pound. Flexible hours- Previous trim experience preferred. 21+ only, MED badge required. Please bring a resume into the store at 127 Goldmine Dr.

HELP WANTED

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is hiring a Full Time Staff Accountant. Those with Bookkeeping, Payroll, Accounts Payable or public accounting experience are encouraged to apply. Familiarity with Microsoft Excel is preferred. Attention to detail, and organizational skills are required. The office is located at the Ski Area located on top of Wolf Creek Pass and requires commuting throughout the year. This is a year-round position, with longer hours during the winter operating months, and a shorter work week in the summer months. This position offers skiing privileges and the compensation starts at \$34 per hour depending on experience. Full slate of insurance benefits and PTO available after a probationary period. Please email resume to: Payroll@WolfCreekSki.com.

WOLF CREEK SKI AREA is hiring an Accounting Assistant. Those with Bookkeeping, Accounting, Clerical or Human Resources experience are encouraged to apply. The office is located at the Ski Area located on top of Wolf Creek Pass and requires commuting throughout the winter months. This position offers skiing privileges and the compensation starts at \$24 per hour depending on experience. Please email resume to: Payroll@ WolfCreekSki.com

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY

DREAMING OF OWNING your own clothing boutique? The Emerald Fox Boutique is For Sale! \$79k. Call Bianca at (505)507-1152. emeraldfoxboutique995@gmail.com.

FOR SALE

2015 COACHMAN CATALINA bumper pull trailer, 8 x33, one slide, very good condition, made by Forest River. \$15,000. (970)382-1510

BEAUTIFUL NATURAL SANDSTONE ROCK for landscaping. 6" to 6 feet. Small, medium, large. Robert Scott (970)731-4707.

BICYCLES 2016 Surly LHT, size medium with extras, \$900. 2019 Salsa Horsethief, size small, carbon. \$2,600. Both excellent condition. (970)264-0373.

DO YOU BURN FIREWOOD? Pine mix available. \$325 a cord or \$600 for a HUGE dump truck load! Contact Dan with FIRE&ICE at (970)582-0006.

DRY FIREWOOD- PINE. Pick up \$240 a cord. Delivery available. Call for prices. Bayfield. Gabe (970)403-2784.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. (719)937-8707.

FIREWOOD FOR SALE. Pine and aspen. Cut about 16" long, split. Delivered by longbed truckload. Call (970)946-4450.

FIREWOOD LOGS FOR SALE. \$65.00 per ton, must have trailer. Forest Health Timber Products sawmill located on Cloman Blvd.

FOREST RIVER 2012 FLAGSTAFF MAC Pop-Up camper. 3 -burner stove, outside gas grill, sleep 4 -6, indoor plumbing/ potty. Deer camp ready. \$6,000. (970)585-9084.

FOR SALE

NEW 20' CONTAINERS FOR SALE or rent. We deliver to homes or businesses. Pagosa Springs Storage (970)731-0007.

NEW QUEEN SIZE PLATFORM BED with headboard. \$150 OBO. (954)830-1123.

OUTDOOR VEHICLE STORAGE SPACES available. 16', 20', 25', plus indoor 12'x20'. Winter specials starting at \$60. Pagosa Springs Storage. Gated with security cameras. (970)749-1500.

PINE ASPEN MIX. Get it while it's hot. (970)903-0731.

PINE WOOD \$130.00 Standard pickup truck load. Oak by order only \$200.00. Pickup truck load. Cut and delivered. Text Gabriel at (970)946-8598.

SELL OR TRADE YOUR GUNS. We buy for cash or trade it. No hassle. Licensed, bonded, insured. San Juan Trading Post, 635 San Juan St. (970)731-PAWN (7296).

TWO 50-GALLON STEEL DRUMS with lids. Used, great condition, \$35 each. Can be seen on Thursday or Friday at Pagosa Springs SUN, 457 Lewis Street.

LIVESTOCK

GRASS HAY, 750 lb., 5' round bales, loaded on site. \$90.00 each, discount for 10 or more. (970)946-4067.

HAY FOR SALE. Some for cows and goats. Teresa Scott (970)731-4707.

IRRIGATED PASTURE. 4 miles north of Pagosa, Snowball Road. 20 minute ride to forests and streams. (970)946-6274.

NATURAL FIELD HAY FOR SALE \$14/ small bale. Please text/ call (970)903-7499.

PETS

ADOPT FROM THE Humane Society. Stop by or call (970)731-4771. You'll be amazed at what we have to offer, www.PagosaHumane.org.

DOGGY DAY CARE 81147.COM. Open 365 days of the year! Full day and half day doggy day care and overnight boarding. Conveniently located just 1 mile from downtown Pagosa. Call (970)264-9111.

FOR POOCH SAKES GROOMING. Appointments available with Kelly (303)819-2015. Mobile appointments with Barb (970)903-1290.

LOVING DOG CARE BY LESLIE N. Text Pet Info to (469)667-4480. Boarding, day care, drop ins, house sitting. References and reviews available. Look for info on: leslieslittles com

AUTOS

2000 JEEP WRANGLER. 2 door with tow bar. 96,550 miles. \$8,300. Call Shellie (970)759-8109.

2001 BUICK LESABRE 122k miles. FWD. Sold as is. Mechanically sound. Body in great condition. \$2,650 OBO. (310)245-0555.

AUTOS

2001 Toyota 4Runner. 305,000 miles, in good shape. \$8,000 OBO. (970)946-8687.

GUARANTEED CREDIT APPROVAL! 4X4 Auto Sales, 21698 Hwy. 160 West, Durango. (970)385-7940.

YARD SALES

BE SURE TO CHECK for more yard sales in the Too Late To Classify section.

GARAGE SALE. Sept. 13 (8:00 -2:00). Half-price Sept. 14 (8:00 -12:00). 2552 Park Avenue. Cabinet, metal garage shelves, kayak, kitchen table, 4 chairs, patio heat towers, etc.

MOVING ESTATE SALE. Barn equipment, horse equipment, furniture, trophy heads, miscellaneous. 14ft-10,000lb trailer currently with 1,000 gallon water tank and pump. Trophy heads. 2889 Trophy Lake Place, Alpine Lakes Meadows division.

MOVING SALE. Friday and Saturday, Sept. 13 and 14. 8a.m. sharp. Tools, kayak, Toro zero turn lawnmower, Summit gun safe, Polaris RZR with Everlite trailer, small furniture and more. Hwy 160 west. Left on S. Pagosa, left on Capricho, left on Cool Pines, house #1211. Rain or Shine. AEHPOS.

MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE. Monday 9/16 and Tuesday 9/17. 9a.m. -2p.m. 440 Carlee Place. Pro Form elliptical, framing table with storage, dog crates, outdoor equipment, computer table, kitchenware, golf miscellaneous, mini fireproof safe, Oxypure air purifier, AlkaViva H2Ionizer, e-bike, much more... rain or shine

NEIGHBORHOOD SALE. Friday 13th and Saturday 14th at 8a.m. 73 Lassen Drive. 2 canoes: 1 single, 1 double, truck tent, cat condo, cat items, generator, housewares, jewelry, camp items.

STORAGE UNIT SALE at All Purpose Storage #21. 193 Rob Snow Road, Pagosa Springs. September 13, 14, 15. 8a.m. to 5p.m. Numerous Items. (661)433-8151.

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1800 S/F SILVERADO CITY SHOPPING CENTER between Upscale Resale and Gustoso's restaurant. \$1800 monthly. (970)946-3902.

2000 SF (WITH ADDITIONAL LOFT STORAGE) flexible commercial/ industrial space on the western side of Pagosa Springs. 15' Ceilings with 2 14' overhead garage doors. 3 Phase Electric. Will be delivered as a shell space ready to be customized. Available August 1st. \$2,100. (415)999-7931, raswheeler@gmail.com.

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HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

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HOMES FOR SALE

HOMES FOR SALE

*We owned a condominium in the Pagosa Springs area which was a rental property. For many years the firm provided property management services for us and we always found them to be very professional and responsive. If you are in need of a competent, professional property management firm or realtor, we would strongly recommend them. -Michael Gamba



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DOWNTOWN OFFICE for rent on 2nd floor with private bathroom. \$400/ month including utilities and WiFi. No smokers. No pets. (970)946-2728.

FOR LEASE 5600 sq. ft. shop/ warehouse. Finished interior in Cloman Industrial Park. Eight 14ft overhead doors, spray booth, 3 phase electricity, natural gas heat. \$5,500/ month. "Lease option to buy possible." 2 acres. (970)946-3762 or (970)731-2847.

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2 ROOM STAND ALONE APARTMENT. 900 sq. ft. on 8 acres on hilltop. 1 mile south of Hospital. Great views, end of cul de sac. Quiet, no traffic, ample parking, washer /dryer, refrigerator/ freezer, 96% propane boiler heat and hot water. No smoking. \$1300 +utilities, Lease. Optional 6 fenced acres, 1 or 2 horses. Optional 700 sq. ft. barn. Burt (619)992-9100.

RESIDENTIAL RENTALS

LONG TERM RENTALS AVAILABLE! Contact Team Pagosa by calling (970)731-8599 or visit teampagosa.com to see listing pictures TP-26: Unfurnished 3 bed 2 bath 2 car. Wood burning stove. Lake Hatcher area. Pet OK \$2250/ month. TP-30: Sweet furnished loft bedroom 2 bath condo. Washer/ dryer and updated kitchen. Great views. Call for more info. Available 9/01/24. \$1750/ month. No pets. TP-31: Single story 3 bedroom 2 bath car garage home. \$2650/ month. No pets. Available around 9/09. Call for more info. TP-32: Unfurnished 3 bed 2 bath home on 3.5 acreage. Some remodeling done. Covered carport. No pets. Available around 9/10/24 \$1975/ month. TP-33: Beautiful unfurnished and updated 1 bedroom 1 bath condo. Ground floor entry. Available around 09/20/24. \$1650/ month. TP-34: Beautiful furnished. 3 bed, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage home in Twin Creek Small dog allowed. Available through the winter starting 10/15/24 -5/31/25. All utilities included. \$3800/ month. TP-35: Beautiful unfurnished 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 2 car garage townhome. Some utilities included. 1 small to medium dog allowed. Available 10/01/24 \$2150/ month.

3 BEDROOM 1200 sq. ft. 5 minute walk to Pagosa Lake. Washer/ dryer, dishwasher, etc. Some utilities paid. No pets. \$1,450. Call John for details and photos (720)960-4910 or (303)881-1407.

BEAUTIFULLY FURNISHED 2 bedroom home. Internet, full bath, washer/dryer, fenced yard, pets OK. Sept- June lease. \$1650/ month. Text only (970)308-1986.

HICKORY RIDGE APARTMENTS. Under New Management and Ownership! 1-, 2-, and 3-bedroom units available; ranging from \$619 \$1,348 a month. Affordable, restrictions apply. Stop by and apply at 650 Florida Street or call (720)869-8877 to set up an appointment.

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MOUNTAIN VIEWS, MEADOWS. Unique high elevation and complete privacy. 5.6 acres bordering national forest, (970)769-3588 blancoretreat@gmail.com.

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'Lifelong library fan' Anne Hillerman to anchor events this weekend

By Leslie Cole

Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library Friends and Foundation

Her famous father may have planted the seeds for her writing career. But it was the library, said Anne Hillerman, that helped it grow.

"I doubt that I would have become a writer without libraries," said Hillerman, 74, a journalist who continued her father's series of Joe Leaphorn-Jim Chee mystery novels set in the Southwest following his death.

She will be in Pagosa Springs Friday and Saturday for events benefiting Ruby Sisson Library's Mountains of Opportunity Building Campaign.

The availability of so many wonderful books and the kind support in Santa Fe and Albuquerque, where I $grew\,up, made\,me\,a\,lifelong\,library\,fan$ and supporter," she said.

Encouraged by her father, Hillerman began writing nonfiction from her home in Santa Fe, N.M.

Some years after Tony Hillerman $died in 2008, she continued \, his \, popular \,$ Navajo police detective series with nine books of her own, bringing officer Bernadette "Bernie" Manuelito, a female officer, into the mix. And the library was always there.

Hillerman will be the special guest at a fireside chat on Saturday evening, a fundraiser for the upgrade and expansion of Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library.

Libraries are changing and dynamic places that provide a range of services beyond the crucial role of free access to information.

The popular Pagosa Springs library branch, built in 1989, sees an average of 6,500 visitors a month, said Cindi Galabota, executive director of the Ruby Sisson Library Foundation.

"We have programs for ages zero to 99 and address so many needs in our community," she said.

An upgrade and expansion will add 4,000 square feet, providing more space for public meetings, a bright and cheery youth area focused on early literacy, space for teens and remote work, and modern technology resources.



Photo courtesv Anne Hillerman

Novelist Anne Hillerman, who splits her time between Santa Fe, N.M., and Tucson, Ariz., with frequent visits to the Navajo Nation, will visit Pagosa Springs Sept. 13-14 for a weekend of events benefiting the Mountains of Opportunity building campaign to upgrade and expand the library.

Most importantly, it will be a calm, comfortable place where anyone is welcome — a feeling Hillerman knows well.

"Libraries were, and still are, my refuge when I need a place of quiet, and my go-to when I'm looking for something new to recharge my batteries," she said.

Please join Hillerman at the following events to support the Ruby Sisson Library Mountains of Opportunity building campaign:

• Sept. 13: Friends of the Library Movie Night, 7 p.m.

Pickup a signed copy of "Lost Birds" and join the author to watch and discuss the first episode of "Dark Winds," the AMC series based on several Tony Hillerman books. Anne Hillerman is an executive producer for the show. Tickets are \$30 advance or \$35 at the door and include wine/beer and light snacks. Join the Friends of the Library at Pagosalibrary.org.

• Sept. 14: Writers workshop at Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library, 9

Explore the writing craft with Anne Hillerman and husband Dave Tedlock, who has taught writing at Roger Williams University, Iowa State University and the Harvard Business School. The workshop is limited to 20 participants. Tickets are \$25; a combo ticket, \$65, includes admission to the Fireside Chat.

• Sept. 14: Ruby's Meet and Greet with Anne Hillerman, 12:30 to 1:15 p.m., at the library.

Meet the best-selling mystery author and purchase a signed book. Anne Hillerman's thought-provoking mysteries bring to life the terrain, people and lore of the American Southwest and Four Corners region. This event

• Sept. 14: Fireside Chat, Pagosa Lakes Property Owners Association Clubhouse, 230 Port Ave., 6 p.m.

Anne Hillerman will sit down with Rick Holter, a former NPR journalist who now lives in Pagosa Springs, for a live interview and conversation. Admission includes craft hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. Tickets \$50 advance or \$55 at the door.

All events benefit the Mountains of Opportunity campaign to upgrade and expand Ruby M. Sisson Memorial

Purchase tickets at Pagosalibrary. org or at the Ruby M. Sisson Memorial Library (cash or check only).

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163 Morro Circle \$689,900 MLS 817212



Short drive to National Forest from this 3 bed, 2 bath, home with attached garage on .21 acre lot. Oversized bedrooms, fenced backyard.

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Mountain views, covered porch, 2 bed, 2 bath, 1357 sq. ft. home with attached garage and stand alone 12'x14' shed.

30 Birch Bay Court \$569,000 MLS 816983



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Archuleta Democrats

Annual Chili Supper



Fri Sept 13 5:30-8:30pm **CSU Ext Building** 344 Highway 84

Register at the door or on-line:

Suggested donation: \$15 Beer & Wine: \$5

Speakers:



Vivian Smotherman, Senate District 6

Katie Stewart, House District 59

Archuleta Democrats proudly represent the majority of voters in the United States and Colorado. In the not-so-distant past, Americans spoke with a common voice against violence, prejudice, exploitation, and injustice. We invite all to join us as we advocate for freedom: human rights, cooperation, tolerance, diplomacy, equality, and peace.

> All donations benefit the local party. If you want to donate food, volunteer, or have questions, contact

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